

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MARCH 1986

20 March Middle East & South Asia Review

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast 20 March after Iraqi naval forces attacked a bridge in Abadan, two "large maritime targets," and one "very large maritime target" 19 March, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited in separate INA reports. In an earlier attack, Iraqi planes raided a munitions factory near Ahvaz 19 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA said the message was in response to reports that U.S. warships had anchored off Karachi. The U.S. ships' presence near the Pakistani port was "a response by foreign powers to recent Iranian gains in the war fronts," IRNA added. In Tehran, the Soviet ambassador delivered a message to an Iranian official from the Soviet prime minister stressing that the USSR "decisively opposes" the use of chemical weapons by anyone for any reason, Tehran radio reported.

Egypt-Israel

Cairo Gunmen Attack Israelis — One Israeli was killed and three others slightly injured when their car was fired on by unidentified gunmen outside the grounds of the Cairo International Trade Fair, MENA reported, adding that Egyptian authorities are searching for the attackers. The report said the Israelis had just finished their work in the Israeli pavilion at the fair when they were attacked from two cars. A group calling itself the "Organization of the Revolutionaries of Egypt" subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. In a statement distributed to news agencies in Cairo, the group said its "armed Nasirite vanguards" had made the attack to retaliate against the presence of an Israeli pavilion at the Cairo fair, the report added.

Further Talks Held on Tabah — The Egyptian and Israeli delegations held further talks on the Tabah issue in Egypt 19 March, MENA reported. An Egyptian spokesman said that the talks dealt with the use of international arbitration to settle the Tabah dispute, the report added.

Egypt

Jordanian King Arrives — King Husayn arrived in Cairo 20 March on a visit scheduled to last a few hours, MENA reported. King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak held talks immediately following the king's arrival, according to a later Amman radio report.

PRC President Ends Visit — PRC President Li Xiannian concluded the official part of his visit to Egypt 20 March and left Cairo to visit Luxor, MENA reported.

Gaza Strip, Jerusalem Attacks

Israeli Security forces captured two "terrorists" who admitted to the 19 March murder of two residents of Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem radio reported. In a separate development, the PLO's "Force 17" claimed responsibility for a car bomb which killed one person and wounded three others in Jerusalem 19 March, AFP reported, citing a call to a Western news agency.

OPEC Affairs

Representatives of five OPEC and five non-OPEC oil-exporting countries "held constructive talks" in Geneva 19 March, according to a joint statement on the meeting carried by OPECNA. The statement added that the representatives discussed the present oil market situation "with a view to setting a common ground" for overcoming obstacles. After the meeting, OPEC conference President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti was optimistic that OPEC and non-OPEC states would come to an agreement on a strategy to stabilize the oil market and "restore prices to reasonable levels," according to a later OPECNA report. Some non-OPEC countries which had earlier been unwilling to cooperate with OPEC on bolstering oil prices are now "indicating their awareness that the situation must be corrected," Hernandez said. In remarks reported by KUNA, the Ecuadorian oil minister said OPEC ministers have reached a consensus that OPEC oil production must be cut below 16 million barrels per day in order to "restore" prices.

Iraq-Syria

An Iraqi official spokesman denied Syrian accusations that Iraq was responsible for a booby-trapped truck that exploded in northern Damascus 13 March. In remarks reported by INA, the spokesman said that Iraq "could not have contemplated any harm to its brothers" in Syria, adding that the Syrian leaders "do not hesitate to fabricate a dastardly operation of this type."

Algeria-USSR

President Chadli Bendjedid will "shortly" make an official visit to the USSR, APS reported.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Arafat Ready To 'Turn Over New Leaf' With Syria

GF201006 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has said the PLO has adopted a decision to turn over a new leaf with Syria. In an exclusive statement published today in the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I*, he said that the rest is left to the brothers in the Syrian leadership. He pointed out that the PLO, for its part, has halted media campaigns. He expressed hope that Palestinian-Syrian meetings would succeed.

In response to a question on the present status of Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the PLO's stand on this issue, 'Arafat affirmed that the recent statement by the Palestinian leadership represents the Palestinian stand. He indicated that the statement, announced by the PLO in Tunis, expresses the PLO's viewpoint and stand.

'Arafat: Exile Government Not Completely Rejected

GF191104 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Jeddah -- Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has affirmed that as far as the Palestinian viewpoint is concerned, the Jordanian-Palestinian accord is still in force. He said the PLO is willing to discuss all issues with Jordan.

In an interview published today in the Saudi newspaper *UKAZ*, 'Arafat said that the United States is responsible for the condition this accord has reached. He said the United States has played a role which caused the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination to reach its present stagnation.

On the Moroccan king's call for the establishment of a Palestinian government-in-exile, 'Arafat indicated he has not completely rejected the idea, and that the Palestinian people alone must determine their destiny and the form of government which they accept.

'Arafat renewed his call for Egypt's return to its Arab brothers. He also emphasized the need to halt the Iraq-Iran war, which he described as a serious and continuing attrition of both Iran and Iraq. He expressed hope that Tehran would accept Islamic mediation to end the war.

PNC Chairman Sees Dispersal of PLO-Jordan 'Clouds'

LD191138 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Mar, (KUNA) — Al-Shaykh 'abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, chairman of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), said here today in a statement published by the Kuwait *AL-RAY AL-AMM* that Jordanian-Palestinian differences following the halt to political coordination between Jordan and the PLO, are mere "summer clouds."

Al-Shaykh al-Sa'ih told the paper that these clouds "will soon disperse when the three leaders, Husayn, Mubarak and 'Arafat, meet in Cairo... This is what we hope, God Willing."

He added "The current circumstances compelled us, Jordanians and Palestinians, to cooperate... The only beneficiaries from deepening the differences between Jordanians and Palestinians, in particular, and among Arabs in general, are Israel and the United States, which gives the former unlimited support in all fields."

The paper stated that Al-Shaykh al-Sa'ih has called upon Arab leaders to convene an Arab summit "to hold consultations, to resolve all their problems and to lay down a clear and frank policy for the Palestinian issue, which would guarantee a just and comprehensive solution which insures the establishment of a Palestinian state on the Palestinian national soil."

PLO Official Urges Convening of Arab Summit

GF191454 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 21

[Text] Amman — Muhammad Milhim, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has said convening an Arab summit has become an urgent necessity due to the circumstances through which the Arab cause is passing and the daily increasing challenges, as well as the existing Arab impotence and unprecedented disunity.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SIYASAH*, Muhammad Milhim said that the true intentions of the United States toward the Palestinian issue have become fully clear through the statements made by a U.S. spokesman the day before yesterday in which he called on Arab countries to settle Palestinian refugees in their territories.

In reply to a question in this regard, he noted that such a stand is new evidence of U.S. hostility toward anything Palestinian. He said the U.S. Administration has proved again its flagrant support and bias toward Israeli aggression at the expense of Palestinian national rights.

Muhammad Milhim said that the present Arab situation encourages any U.S. or European official to make any kind of statements. Perhaps such stands will provoke the latent potentials within us to react. He asserted that if the Arab stand was solid, no one would dare to undermine others and trespass upon the refugees' cause.

He stated that the Palestinian people refuse to settle inside or outside Arab countries and only want their land to establish their independent state. He noted the new U.S. proposal does not differ from the concept of the substitute homeland with which the United States has annoyed us over the past few years, but it is of a different style.

Muhammad Milhim said: All of us, whether Arab governments or the PLO, must react to the U.S. Administration's stands which are not new except in their timing. He went on to say: We are sure that the U.S. officials want to liquidate the Palestinian cause. From this point stem the elements of doubt and lack of confidence in the U.S. promises, particularly by Palestinian officials.

He said: We have reached a stage of complete clarity in attitudes. The limits and capabilities of each of us are obvious. The Arab countries which host Palestinians are urged now more than ever to react to the U.S. proposals.

Geneva Court Sentences Palestinians for Bombings
AU191404 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — Two Palestinians, Jamil Ahmadi and Muhammad Tahir, were jailed for 9 and 5 years respectively by a Geneva court Wednesday for carrying out bomb attacks here last April against Libyan and Syrian targets.

Ahamadi, 34, and Taher, 24, said they belonged to the "Martyrs of Tal Za'tar" organization, named after a Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut which was overrun by Christian militia in 1976

after a 52-day siege in which an estimated 1,600 people died.

The Palestinians admitted placing bombs which destroyed the Libyan Arab Airlines offices here and blew up the car of Ahmad Sakir, Syrian charge d'affaires to international organizations.

There were no injuries in the attacks, although Mr. Saker and his wife suffered from shock.

Disposal experts defused a third bomb left under the car of another Syrian diplomat Abd al'Wahab Barakat, a nephew of President Hafiz al-Asad.

Dr. Ahamadi said that they had not intended to kill, but simply "send a warning to Libya and Syria, who are massacring Palestinians."

Grisanti Believes Price Stability Accord Possible*LD192312 Vienna OPECNA In English 2004 GMT*

19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 19 Mar 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti tonight expressed optimism that further consultations between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producing countries would result in an agreement on a strategy to stabilize the world oil market and restore prices to reasonable levels.

He told journalists following the second round of talks between five OPEC oil ministers and representatives of five non-OPEC oil producing countries that the consultations would be continued, as both sides were conscious that they must "fulfil their responsibilities".

"We still have a lot of work to do," he added.

In a reference to the impact of falling oil prices, Hernandez, who is Venezuela's energy and mines minister, said some "important developments" were currently taking place, such as the decision of oil companies throughout the world to "cut their payrolls".

He said that some non-OPEC oil producing countries, which had been unwilling to cooperate with the organization in its efforts to restore market stability, were now "indicating their awareness that the situation must be corrected".

"These countries know very well that a further deterioration of the market will hit them very hard," he stated.

The 77th (extraordinary) OPEC conference meeting will resume Thursday [20 March] morning. At the same time, the group of experts chaired by OPEC Deputy Secretary General Dr Fadhil J. al-Chalabi will meet separately.

OPEC, Non-OPEC Producers in 'Constructive' Talks*LD192302 Vienna OPECNA in English 1915 GMT*

19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 19 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC and non-OPEC representatives, who met here today to discuss the present oil market situation, said in a joint statement that the talks were held "in a constructive atmosphere".

The full text of the joint statement is as follows:

A sub-committee of the OPEC conference, chaired by the conference's president, He Dr. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, minister of energy and mines of Venezuela, and composed of heads of delegation of Indonesia, the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela, met, on behalf of OPEC, ministers and representatives from certain oil exporting countries outside OPEC, namely, Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman, in Geneva today, 19th March 1986, and held constructive talks in which they shared the same sense of responsibility vis-a-vis their respective countries and the stability of the international oil market.

Both OPEC and non-OPEC representatives discussed the present oil market situation with a view to setting a common ground to overcome the obstacles that they are facing. The talks were held in a constructive atmosphere.

The OPEC conference will resume tomorrow and another meeting between OPEC and non-OPEC representatives is scheduled to be held after tomorrow's OPEC conference in order to work out an effective strategy to restore stability to the world oil market.

Nigeria Predicts 20 Dollars Per Barrel Price*AU192116 Paris AFP in English 2105 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — Nigerian Petroleum Minister Rilwanu Lukman Wednesday [19 March] made it clear that Nigeria sees a crude oil price of at least 20 dollars a barrel as a target for efforts of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to bolster the world oil market.

He said that in order to reverse the recent price collapse, discussions among OPEC ministers on production cutbacks were now focusing on a range of 13 to 16 million barrels a day (MBD); as the upper limit for total OPEC output.

Implicitly confirming that the 13 member countries differ on this, he said, however, that "the margin is narrowing". He did not rule out the possibility of a suspension of the conference.

"My perception is that we are going to try to reach an agreement before we rise," he said, adding: "if we need further consultations, we'll meet again."

Mr. Lukman said all agreed that "if you're going to improve the price, you have to do something about production", and that the volume would depend on the price you want."

He said Nigeria favoured across the board cuts in member countries' national quotas, but acknowledged that "maybe some adjustments will have to be made."

The relationship between individual countries' quotas "should not be different from what they are now," Mr. Lukman said.

UAE: Production Cuts Depend on 'All Producers'*AU191717 Paris AFP in English 1708 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani Sa'id al-Utayba Wednesday [19 March] made it clear that Britain and Norway must share responsibility for any effort to reduce world overproduction of crude oil.

Asked whether OPEC would be able to agree on production cuts, he said that "responsibility must be shared by all producers."

Asked if this included Britain and Norway, he simply repeated: "By all producers."

Mr. Al-Utayba was speaking here at a ministerial conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Ecuadoran Claims Production Cut 'Consensus'

LD191331 Kuwait KUNA in English 1258 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (KUNA) — OPEC members reached consensus to cut their production to below the ceiling of 16 million barrels a day in order to restore prices, the Ecuadoran oil minister said Wednesday.

Speaking to journalists while the five OPEC and non-OPEC ministers were in session, he said there was consensus within OPEC on the need to reduce output.

"The only way" to solve the present market dilemma was "to cut back on production," Javier Espinosa Teran commented.

"This would have to be cut from present production of course because those barrels are in the market. If the average for OPEC oil was 17 million barrels in the first quarter that has to be cut back to a level that is being advised and studied by the experts," he stated.

"We have to reduce to the required level to restore prices," the minister went on.

Asked whether this should be below the quota of 16 million barrels, he replied "I think we have to go below that, together with OPEC and non-OPEC."

The OPEC ministers had reached consensus that the cut should be to below the 16 million barrels, he reiterated, but he declined to respond to a query if the appropriate level might be just 14 million barrels.

BAHRAIN

Amir Says GCC Doing Best To Stop Iran-Iraq War
GF151802 Manama WAKH in English 1645 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, Mar 15 (WAKH) — H.H. the amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah was quoted as saying here Saturday that the Gulf Cooperation Council states are doing their best to stop the ongoing Iraqi-Iranian war.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* newspaper, Shaykh 'Isa described the Iranian-Iraqi conflict as regrettable and painful war due to the continued human and material losses it is inflicting. He emphasized that "we in the GCC states have done our best with our brothers to stop that blood letting which serves no one. The impact of that conflict is urging all of us to continue the efforts toward an end to the conflict so that security and stability be restored and to avoid the external dangers," Shaykh 'Isa also said.

The amir of Bahrain pointed out that the Iraqi-Iranian conflict has received due attention by the GCC summit, held in Muscat last November and the recent GCC Ministerial Council which convened in Riyadh.

He further said that the GCC leaders are coordinating and consulting together, taking into consideration the interest and future of the peoples of the region and the security and stability in the area.

Paper: U.S.-Israel Strategic Alliance 'Bitter Fact'
GF190826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In Bahrain, the newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* notes that the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionist enemy has become, over the past few years, a bitter fact that the Arab world can do nothing about. The two sides have bolstered, consolidated, and strengthened this relationship without taking heed of Arab protests, which were loud at the beginning but grew quieter with time.

In its editorial today the newspaper states that the talks currently taking place in Tel Aviv move the U.S.-Zionist alliance one step further. It is expected that an agreement will be signed between the two sides to store U.S. military equipment in occupied Palestine and to provide for the use of Israeli airfields and ports by U.S. forces. The paper notes that this means that the armed forces of both sides would become intertwined and we will not know from now on where the Israeli forces begin and the U.S. forces end.

The paper adds: With this development, the alliance between the United States and the enemy will turn into a solid wall to confront any Arab attempt to regain the occupied territories. The enemy has guaranteed its permanent military superiority over the Arabs — through its intertwining with U.S. forces — in any peace negotiation which the Arabs might be compelled to accept.

In conclusion, the paper calls on the Arabs to support legitimate resistance and armed struggle against occupation with all of their abilities, stressing that resistance is the only thing which the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance cannot foil.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Asks Iran To Respond To Peace Calls
GF151900 Doha QNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Mar (QNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has called upon Iran again to respond to calls for peace, pledging at the same time that the GCC countries will continue to exert efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* today, he said that the GCC countries have exerted every possible effort to put a limit to this war which is sapping the energy of the two countries and the region and that they have called upon Iran on every occasion to respond to Iraq's call for peace. He affirmed that the GCC countries will not stop exerting every effort to stop this war and prevent its expansion and its threatening of regional and international security.

The Kuwaiti official described coordination among the GCC countries as continuous in all military, defense, security, political, and economic fields. He said that the GCC is a reality which imposes itself on all levels and out of everyone's conviction that the concerns and ambitions of the GCC countries are a joint and mutual issue.

About the Peninsula Shield Force which is regarded as the avant-garde or the joint arm of the GCC countries in confronting foreign threats, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that this force exists and is ready to help any [GCC] state when necessary.

Paper: Iraqi Victories Behind U.S. Warning to Iran
GF161815 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 16 March (WAKH) — A Kuwaiti daily noted that the United States warning to Iran against expanding the war, comes after Iraq's recent victories.

The daily *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* said Iraq's victories are behind the American warning, because the United States was convinced of the certainty of the Iranian defeat, particularly after north Iraq was purged from the last Iranian soldier.

If the U.S. is really keen on ending the war, it can do so or at least limit its effects and consequences through stopping the smuggling of American weapons to Iran, the daily said.

The paper noted that the most important factor in the American initiative is that Washington has seriously felt, for the first time, the possible devastating repercussions of the Gulf escalation, adding Iran itself is still giving open invitations to superpowers to interfere, to threaten the Gulf security.

Iran alone could stop this devilish game to keep the Gulf safe from the superpower rivalry and the danger of foreign interventions, *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* asserted.

OMAN

Kuwaiti Official Departs Following Security Talks

GF200853 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Major General Yusuf Badr al-Khuraifi, under secretary at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry, and his accompanying delegation, left Oman today following a 3-day visit.

In a predeparture statement to the radio correspondent, he expressed his great gratitude for the hospitality and warm welcome he was accorded. He stated that his visit was part of the strengthening of fraternity and cooperation ties in the security field between the two fraternal countries.

The under secretary at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry was seen off by Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Qatabi, under secretary at the Interior Ministry for local administrative regions affairs; Brigadier General 'Abdallah ibn 'Ali al-Nabri, assistant inspector general of police and customs; a number of senior officers in the Omani Sultan's police; and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Oman.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Says No Mediation With 'Ali Nasir

GF190927 Doha QNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Mar (QNA) — PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas has expressed satisfaction with the results of the contacts he held recently with the leaders of the fraternal neighboring countries toward achieving security and stability in the region.

He described his country's relations with the countries of the region as solid and based on fraternal cooperation, good neighborliness, and nonintervention in the internal affairs of others. He affirmed the PDRY's commitment to all of the unity agreements signed with the YAR and stated that efforts would continue to achieve unity between the two countries. The PDRY chairman earlier sent messages to the leaders of a number of countries in the region.

In a statement published by the newspaper *AL-ITTihad* today, Al-'Attas denied that there is mediation between his government and former PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He also denied reports on instability in the PDRY. He pointed out, however, that his country suffered great economic losses as a result of the events of 13 January 1986.

The PDRY chairman indicated that a large number of people detained as a result of these events have been released and more would be released soon. He added: "We welcome the return of the 'fugitives' who fled after these incidents and do not regard them all in the same light."

Source Reports on Secret Aden Military Trials

GF191412 Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] In statement to *AL-RAY AL-'AMM*, a high-ranking Yemeni source said that the ruling authorities in Aden have carried out secret military trials issuing sentences against a number of pilots and air navigators in Badr camp. The source added that these detainees number more than 10,000 and are being held in Ma'shuq, Al-Sawlajan, and Zinjibar prisons, as well as other prisons in the governorates.

SAUDI ARABIA

Aid Given to Sudanese Police, Famine Victims

PM191025 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 12 Mar 86 p 1

[Correspondent report: "King Fahd Presents 124 Suzuki Jeep-type Vehicles with Communications Equipment to Sudanese Ministry of Interior"]

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has presented sisterly Sudan with 124 Suzuki Jeep-type vehicles with communications equipment in order to enhance the Sudanese police services in the nation's capital, Khartoum.

This was stated by Sudanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia 'Isa Mustafa Salamah. He said that the royal gift from his majesty falls within the framework of the distinguished bilateral relations between the two sisterly countries and the cooperation between the Interior Ministries in Khartoum and Riyadh.

The ambassador said that his majesty's gift to the Sudanese police is part of the continuing aid and assistance which the government of sisterly Saudi Arabia, under his majesty's leadership, has been giving to Sudan and its people since the April uprising. Suffice it to say here that Saudi military transport planes daily carry food, clothing, and medical assistance to the drought-stricken areas in Sudan in order to alleviate hardships suffered by the drought victims there.

Paper on Iranian Accusations Against Kingdom

GF190708 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Have Grown Weary of the Falsehoods of Those Guilty of Excesses", the newspaper *UKAZ* says: We have grown extremely fed up with the campaigns of distortion, falsehoods, and untrue allegations to which this country is subjected at the hands of those who exaggerate in their attempt to mislead and deceive international public opinion concerning their stands which lack commitment and their excesses. What an official spokesman has announced in response to a message by the Iranian president addressed to the OPEC conference through the Iranian media 2 days ago refutes the Iranian allegations and strips them bare.

The spokesman renewed the Kingdom's desire to preserve OPEC's cohesiveness and to protect the joint interests of its members. The spokesman also renewed the Kingdom's proposals to form a neutral committee of experts to examine the facts concerning the Kingdom's production and export. The Kingdom welcomes this because it has nothing to hide. Its clear and frank stands on oil place it in an enviable position.

UAE

PLO's 'Arafat Arrives in Abu Dhabi 19 Mar

GF200558 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Mar (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Abu Dhabi tonight [19 March] on a visit to the UAE.

During the visit, 'Arafat will meet with a number of senior UAE officials as part of discussions on current developments in the Arab arena in general and the Palestinian question in particular.

British Minister on Oil Prices, Aid to Kuwait

GF191424 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
19 Mar 86 pp 3, 19

[Text] Dubayy — Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, denied that his country was responsible for the deterioration of oil prices. In a press conference in Dubayy yesterday, he said: It is unreasonable to put the blame on Britain alone regarding the reduction of oil prices. The British minister pointed out that the production of the non-OPEC countries represents only a small portion of the overall OPEC production, and that Britain exports only 1 million bpd and that with the decline of North Sea output this quantity will decrease. In response to a question on his country's non

cooperation with OPEC to maintain price levels and to control production, the British Minister said: OPEC itself has no plan to enable us to cooperate with it. We are still waiting for OPEC to develop a comprehensive scheme to reduce production. The British minister said that during his talks in the UAE, Bahrain, and Qatar he had not sensed the belief that Britain is not cooperating.

He expressed his country's readiness to offer any kind of aid to the friendly countries in the region pointing out that the Gulf countries are considered to be a major trading partner and an important trade center for his country. Therefore, his country will not hesitate to offer any aid at any time. The British minister indicated that his remarks on the offering of aid to Kuwait were made as a result of the message addressed by Iran to the United Nations accusing Kuwait of offering aid to Iraq and the possibility of escalating the war to include the GCC states. He said that the remark he made in Doha was: If the Kuwaitis ask for military equipment, Britain will consider this quickly. He added that it is difficult to determine what Kuwait will ask for in this regard. He said that his country's objective is to bring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table under the umbrella of the United Nations.

USSR Delegation To Visit UAE, To Open Embassy

GF200617 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Mar (WAKH) — Press reports in Abu Dhabi today said that a high-level USSR diplomatic and technical delegation will arrive in Abu Dhabi next week to make the necessary preparations to open a USSR embassy in the UAE.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes reliable Arab diplomatic sources in Moscow as saying that the Soviet delegation will be very high level and that the USSR will announce at a later time its new ambassador to the UAE.

Gunmen Attack Israeli Workers at Cairo Fair**1 Dead, 3 Wounded**

NC191951 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1938 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Some unidentified individuals shot at a car tonight that was carrying four persons, including two women, who worked at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Industrial Fair. The four were injured and were rushed to the hospital for treatment. One of the women died of her wounds.

A search has been mounted to arrest the criminals and seize the automobile used in the incident. The four Israelis left in their own car at 1900 today after finishing their shift at the Israeli pavilion. This was when the criminals attacked.

Survivors Off Critical List

NC192131 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2113 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — MENA has learned that the four Israelis were fired on outside the grounds of the Cairo International Fair near Gate No 2. It has also been determined that the criminals employed two cars. One of them was used to cut off the Israelis' automobile, while those in the second vehicle did the shooting.

The authorities are questioning those who were near the scene of the incident. A medical source at the hospital where the three wounded are being treated has said that the injured are now off the critical list. Their wounds are not serious and they have been given the required first aid.

Police Pursue Attackers

NC192144 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2107 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Some unidentified individuals fired on a car this evening that was carrying four people, including two women, who worked in the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Industrial Fair. The vehicle's passengers were hit and were rushed to the hospital, where one of the two women died of her wounds. The authorities are now in pursuit of the culprits and the car used in the attack.

The four Israelis left in their own automobile at 1900 after finishing their shift in the Israeli pavilion at the fair. That was when the criminals attacked.

Our correspondent has learned that the criminals used two cars in their assault. According to an eyewitness who was standing at the front gate of the fairgrounds, one of the cars employed by the criminals was a Mercedes, while the other was a Datsun or a Toyota. Our correspondent also reports that the four wounded persons were rushed to Al-Muqawilun al-'Arab Hospital for treatment. The Ministry of Interior appeals to any citizen who saw the incident, or was near the scene, to head for the nearest police station and to pass his information along to the officer in charge. Reports may also be made over the telephone by dialing 122.

'Senior Surgeons' Treating Israelis

NC192204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — MENA has learned that a team of senior surgeons is supervising the treatment of the injured Israelis, whose ages range between 25 and 40.

New Group Claims Responsibility

NC192120 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Egyptian radio reported some time ago that four Israeli workers at the Cairo International Fair were fired on and wounded by unidentified individuals in an automobile at approximately 1900 today. This occurred as the Israelis were riding in their own car after finishing their shift. They were taken to the hospital, where one of the wounded women died.

The Organization of the Revolutionaries of Egypt [munazzamat thuwar misr] announced a short while ago that it was responsible for the incident. It distributed a statement to news agencies in Cairo condemning the presence of an Israeli pavilion at the Cairo fair. The declaration said that the organization's armed Nasirite vanguards had retaliated for giving Israel a pavilion at the Cairo International Fair. According to the statement they had done so by dispatching those whom it described as members of Israeli intelligence supervising the Israeli pavilion.

Investigation Continues

NC201300 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Witnesses of the incident involving four Israelis outside Cairo International Fair yesterday noted the number of the car used. This number belongs to a GMC pick-up truck owned by an oil company based in Alexandria. This means that the registration plates are stolen.

Meanwhile, the public prosecutor has asked that the car in which the Israelis were riding — a Peugeot with diplomatic license plates — should be left at the site of the incident until the investigation into the matter, including the forensic expert's examination, is concluded. The public prosecutor is still conducting investigations at the Cairo International Fair police station to find the culprits, who possibly used a blue Mercedes car.

Spokesman Denounces Shooting

NC201312 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1238 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has expressed the Egyptian Government's profound regret over and condemnation of the incident that took place outside the Cairo International Fair yesterday. As a result of this incident one woman was killed and three others employed at the Israeli pavilion in the fair were wounded.

The spokesman added that the perpetrators of this criminal action will not escape justice and that the authorities concerned

will make every effort to hunt down and arrest the criminals, and take all legal measures against them.

The authorities concerned have started interrogating those persons who were near the place of the incident. Preliminary investigations confirm that the perpetrators used two vehicles, one of which intercepted the Israelis' car. The passengers of the other car fired at the Israelis' car with machineguns. A description of two of the assailants has been obtained. One is between 30 and 35 years old and the second is between 30 and 32 years old.

Assailant's Discription Issued

*NC201335 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1245 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] As part of the search and investigation to discover the identity of the perpetrators of the attack against some Israelis employed at the Israeli pavilion at Cairo International Fair, the following descriptions of two of the assailants have been issued:

The first is between 30 and 35 years old. He is approximately 170 to 175 cm tall. He has a pale to ruddy complexion and a full face. He has freckles on his face and hands, and his hair is curly and reddish. He is of robust and athletic build.

The second is between 30 and 32 years old. He is approximately 175 cm tall. He has a pale complexion and his hair is soft, fairish, and wavy at the forehead.

The Interior Ministry appeals to the citizens to help it apprehend the criminals and to inform the nearest police station or patrolling policeman should they suspect anyone answering to these descriptions. They should also inform the police if they have any information that might help in the investigation. Those who were present at the site of the incident and saw what happened are particularly requested to come forward. Citizens can also contact the state's security investigation branches on the following telephone numbers: 355-6753 or 355-6220.

Jordan's Husayn Visits Cairo on 'Working Visit'

Talks To Focus on PLO Issue

NC191504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — According to press reports in Cairo, Jordan's King Husayn will arrive in the Egyptian capital tomorrow, Thursday, for a working visit. He will meet with President Husni Mubarak for a discussion of the latest developments in the Palestinian issue. This examination will take place in light of recent Arab and international events.

In tomorrow's edition, the magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* writes that Hani Al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, has come to Cairo before King Husayn. The magazine adds that he is carrying a full explanation of the Palestinian position following the recent developments in the region.

In addition, *AL-MUSAWWAR* points out that Egyptian officials have reason to hope that King Husayn's visit will be a clear contribution to narrowing the gap between Jordan and the PLO.

Husayn Arrives in Cairo

NC201004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0958 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Cairo this morning on a brief visit that will last for a few hours. He was welcomed at the airport by President Husni Mubarak.

Mubarak, Husayn Confer

NC201320 Cairo MENA in English 1240 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 20 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak held today a tete-a-tete meeting with King Husayn of Jordan. The Egyptian and Jordanian sides also held another meeting attended by Premier Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Deputy Premier and Defence and Military Production Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, and First Foreign Undersecretary and Director of the President's Office for Political Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

The Jordanian side to the talks included Premier Zayd al-Rifa'i, Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, head of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim, and Jordanian Ambassador here Husayn Hamami.

Further on Visit by PRC President Li Xiannian

Bilateral Agreements Signed

NC191848 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Egypt and the PRC signed a program today covering the implementation of a bilateral cultural cooperation agreement for the years 1986 through 1988. In addition they signed the letters exchanged on political consultations held between senior Egyptian and Chinese foreign ministry officials concerning international issues of common concern. The notes also deal with the visits paid by competent foreign affairs officials from both countries to review and analyze various problems.

The program and letters were signed by Ambassador Muhammad Wafa' Hijazi, Egypt's assistant foreign minister, and by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan.

The goal of the program for bilateral cooperation is to increase coordination in the fields of culture, arts, information, youth affairs, sports, and education, and to exchange scholarships and teachers of the Arabic and Chinese languages. It also seeks to strengthen Egyptian-Chinese cooperation in the area of health, and to share expertise in order to establish a factory that will produce artificial kidneys in Egypt.

Li Receives Lutfi*NC192005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1948 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian received Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi tonight at the Presidential Palace in Al-Qubjah.

Li Leaves for Luxor*NC200732 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian concluded his official visit to Egypt this morning. An official farewell ceremony took place at the Al-Qubbah Palace.

Presidents Husni Mubarak and Li Xiannian stood on the balcony of the Presidential Palace as a band of the presidential guard played the Chinese and Egyptian national anthems. The two presidents then went downstairs and the Chinese president shook hands with wellwishers, including People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, the deputy prime ministers, and other ministers. Governor of Cairo Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib, the commanders of the main branches of the Armed Forces, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, were also on hand to see the Chinese president off.

Four children then presented bouquets to President Li Xiannian and Mubarak and to their wives, after which the two presidents reviewed a guard of honor. Afterward, the important Chinese guest and President Mubarak were driven in a motorcade to Cairo Airport, from where the Chinese president will leave for Luxor on a private 3-day visit.

Mubarak Hopes for Tabah Formula in Current Talks*NC191435 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has expressed his hopes that a formula for referring the Tabah issue to arbitration will be arrived at during the current round of talks, and that no further talks will be necessary for this purpose. President Mubarak was responding to foreign correspondents after his meeting with the economic group today.

The president was asked whether a formula for arbitration has been reached. He said: I have not received any such formula. The Israeli and Egyptian delegations are still negotiating. Asked about a deadline for the conclusion of the Tabah talks, President Mubarak replied: We are not committed to a certain set date. We are only committed to our objectives. Replying to a question on whether King Husayn will visit Cairo tomorrow, President Mubarak said: Tomorrow we will see. We will talk on the phone today.

Tabah Talks Resume*NC192021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2003 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian and Israeli delegations resumed their talks on the Tabah problem tonight.

U.S. representatives also took part in the 2-hour session. Counsellor Mahmud 'Uthman, the spokesman for the Egyptian delegation, said that points related to the problem of using international arbitration to settle the Tabah issue are still being discussed. The talks will resume tomorrow morning.

Mubarak Receives Israeli Tourism Minister*NC200942 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir this morning. Egyptian Tourism Minister Dr Fu'ad Sultan and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason attended the meeting.

Mubarak Outlines 'Principles' of Economic Decisions*NC191622 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Following President Mubarak's meeting today with the members of the economic group, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said the president laid down six principles to which the government should be committed in tackling our economic problems and meeting the shortage of resources. These principles are:

1. A commitment to the objectives of the development plan; maintenance of increasing rates of production; a determination to abide by the schedules drawn up for productive and service projects; and to make the necessary funds for investment available according to plan. This should be accompanied by the further rationalization of the new budget without affecting salaries, wage increases, or employee incentives.
2. To achieve social justice among the public by establishing a balanced wage structure and an equal sharing of responsibilities.
3. To take no measure or make no decision that would affect those with low incomes or raise the price of basic commodities.
4. Those who can must, within the limits of their income and ability, bear the burden in terms of the services they receive.
5. To avoid any ban or prohibition on the import of certain goods without reference to tariffs, provided that our national products are taken into account. Any change in customs duties should have absolutely no impact on basic goods or foodstuffs.
6. All economic decisions must be based on an in-depth study so that the problem may be dealt with and solved. The facts should be laid out for the public.

Al-Sharif added that President Mubarak touched on the various steps taken and decisions made in this context. The president noted that these decisions should be referred to the Cabinet for discussion and an opinion.

The information minister concluded by saying that the Cabinet is expected to meet early next week to examine the studies that are currently being prepared on the basis of these six principles.

UAE Leader Sends Message to Mubarak*NC201056 Cairo MENA in English 1006 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, March 20 (MENA) — Shaykh Hamdan Ibn Zayid, United Arab Emirates foreign undersecretary and director of the football union, said that he conveyed a verbal message from head of the UAE Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al-Nahayyan to President Husni Mubarak during their meeting today.

Following his meeting with the president, the UAE official said that he will attend during his visit to Egypt due to run till Monday the finals of the African Cup championship tomorrow.

Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad Meets French Counterpart*NC191539 Cairo MENA in English 1415 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Alexandria, March 19 (MENA) — The Commander of the Naval Forces, Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad, conferred here today with his visiting French opposite number, Yves Leonardth [spelling as received], on means of boosting cooperation in the various fields. The meeting was attended by the French delegation accompanying Admiral Leonardth and a number of highranking Navy officers.

Meanwhile, the French official laid a wreath on the memorial of the unknown soldier here. He also visited the naval base in Ra's al-Tin and the Naval Forces Academy. The French official arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit.

Opposition Paper Calls for Reforms 'Immediately'*PM191715 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Mar 86 pp 1,9*

[Chief Editor 'Adil Husayn article: "Let's Move Immediately or Else It Is the Deluge"]

[Excerpts] It appears that the masses expected (as we ourselves did) more than President Mubarak's recent speech contained. After all that has happened and since all the political forces have unanimously agreed that the armed mutiny reflects a general social and economic crisis, the general impression that prevailed was that President Mubarak would frankly announce changes in certain policies that were the cause for the general crisis to develop the way it did.

For its part, the official media sought to raise this hope when it significantly announced that the president would meet with the Cabinet before making his speech. We believed that this was a step by the president reflecting his desire to involve the whole Cabinet in discussing the decisions reached. But the expectations and interpretations proved to be wrong. That is unless last-minute developments compelled the president to postpone what he had intended to do.

Under all the circumstances, what happened last week was an extremely serious matter — extremely serious. If the president still believes that waiting without taking action is still desirable or possible, then it is our right to declare our disengagement with this and making a move has become an urgent demand that brooks no delay. We are saying this because the ship of the

political regime is carrying us all and if, God forbid, it sinks then the sea will not swallow only the government and spare the opposition.

Our loyalty to the Constitution and to the rules of democratic practice is beyond doubt because it is in our interest that this is so. We were pleased by the manner with which the presidency dealt with the situation in that, contrary to previous practices and traditions, it did not take the incidents, despite their seriousness, as a pretext to switch off lights and arrest the opponents. Rather, President Mubarak called for an end to arbitrary levelling of political accusations against the "instigators" and the "conspirators". We support this and the nation welcomes it. We also agree with what the speech said about the function of the police and its patriotic role and about the Armed Forces and their high efficiency in dealing with events. We said this in last week's issue of *AL-SHA'B* but, as we said, all this is not enough. We were expecting more and — after the analyses and explanations — we were expecting decisions.

Changing the Government Through Elections

We cite here some examples: We agree with those who praise the achievements of the democratic practices; there is no doubt that they have contributed to forming a public stand on the acts of sabotage. This is true, but it is also true that the existing democratic practice is insufficient. It could render the stand adopted by the masses vulnerable and its continuation insecure.

Democracy is not a club for prattle by the cultured. There is no harm in democracy beginning with such a thing but after such an initial step it cannot stop at that because otherwise it would turn into a disaster. Democracy is a better way of life for society and for the method of rule. If democracy fails to achieve this, its raison d'être collapses and it comes to an end. Democracy opens doors wide to organized participation in government, both on the local level and the central level. Consequently, it opens wide a door to rectifying mistakes and taking into consideration people with various views and interests before decisions are taken and policies adopted.

What happened in our case is that we paused a long time at the prattle club that we have opened for the cultured and opened no new venues that would enable people with different views and interests to have an actual and direct influence on policies and decisions. The election laws, for example, are designed to limit participation in elections to a circle of people with special links to the ruling party. Sometimes this restriction amounts to total ban on "the aliens" as in the case of local elections and elections to the Consultative Council and sometimes it could be a quasi-ban as in the case of elections to the People's Assembly.

The matter is far more serious than a complaint we are making in order to increase the number opposition members in the various councils. What we fear and warn against is the frustration of the masses' hope in the possibility of reforms through elections. As long as changing the ruling persons through elections is impossible, then those who are harmed by the present situation and those who believe in change have no alternative but to shun the game of elections and to look for back doors and secret methods. If we observe that young people avoid being registered

in the electoral register then it must be realized that this is a clear warning.

What we said about the elections law is regarded to be a fundamental cause for the political crisis threatening us. The opposition party leaders have expressed this view during their meeting with President Mubarak. We hoped that decisions would be issued and moves would be made to this end following the aggravation of the crisis.

What we said does not mean that the crisis of democracy is confined to the question of elections. Democracy in our country is being exercised in conditions that cannot be ignored; these conditions must be defined and their features pinpointed. One of these conditions is the fact that our struggle against tutelage is not over yet. Enemies of Arab renaissance are concentrating on weakening Egypt and striking at it in particular. This means the need to recognize a special role for the Egyptian Armed Forces in the state's higher strategy and in the process of general political decision-making. Unless the nature of the ties between the Army and the rest of the elected and nonelected state institutions is defined, the democratic practice will remain in a state of confusion and exposed to faltering.

But putting aside what we said, the deep significance of which can be fully appreciated only by the political elite, democracy in the eyes of the ordinary citizen has other, more simple manifestations: Does the ordinary citizen find someone who listens to his complaint and take action on it? Can he discuss what has been decided on matters concerning him as so as to rectify the decision within a reasonable period of time if such a decision is unjust? Even forgetting about the general politics of international relations, the government's attitude toward the Islamic Shari'ah, and the rate of development, what about a school for his son, what about the hospital administration in his area, and his dispute — as a tenant — with the landlord (or — as a landlord — with the tenant)? How can the salaries and wages be increased in level with prices or how can he face up to a superior who is humiliating him and so on...

If the roads leading to solving any of these problems are blocked, what democracy are we talking about and what use is the advice to go through the proper channels if the government organizations are tyrannical and nongovernment organizations (associations, trade unions, and federations) are impotent or headed by

a minister or someone similar? Will the ordinary people with needs to be attended to listen to us if we continue to reiterate to them words that neither make them rich or satisfy their hunger. At best they will accuse us of being ignorant or collaborating with those doing them an injustice. This is something that we utterly reject.

We demand, in the name of the people, a change in the present conditions with a view to expanding actual participation in political and social action. We were hoping that the president's speech would contain something to this effect that would reassure us.

The government is now telling us about its desire to improve the living conditions of the Central Security Forces. If this were to happen then there are other bodies similar to that of the Central Security whose conditions require similar improvement. The fact is that the various categories employed in the government and public sector (beginning with the highest levels) are now demanding this. How will the government be able to meet such obligation in these circumstances? The continuation of the present situation prevents an increasing the state revenues. In fact the revenues are going to drop because of the drop in the oil prices. Therefore, an increase in salaries and wages could only mean a tremendous increase in the budget deficit, printing more banknotes, and higher prices.

The situation calls for real increase in the state budget revenues so that the budget may be able to meet its obligations toward those working in the field of defending the country and its security and those employed in production and services. This means rectifying the balance between the income of those employed in the government sector and those employed outside it. More precisely, the matter calls for a real transfer of wealth from the income of those who can afford it, rather from those who cannot afford it, in order to meet their legitimate and national obligations. Enriching the state coffers (through taxes and appropriate economic policies) is a matter that brooks no delay if we want to overcome the crisis.

In this regard, too, we were expecting clear decisions but our hope has been frustrated. It appears that the matter really calls for a study of the method of decision making in Egypt and of the reasons for delaying things that cannot be delayed.

Syrian Charges on Damascus Bombing Rejected*JN191810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1738 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — Iraq has affirmed that it could not have contemplated any harm to its brothers, the sons of Syria who are in solidarity with Iraq in the just war it is waging against Iran.

This came in a comment by the spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information today in reply to the Syrian regime's claims holding Iraqi organs responsible for the explosions that took place in Damascus several days ago.

The spokesman said: One is greatly confused as to how to explain the reasons behind these Syrian claims at this particular time. Everyone knows that the Syrian regime is facing all-out condemnation by the Syrian Arab people and the entire Arab nation for its traitorous stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq and all its traitorous stands.

The spokesman affirmed that lofty Iraq, the home of brave men, does not use cowardly, but rather direct, methods even when dealing with traitors and plotters.

The spokesman added: The Damascus rulers, who are immersed in evil and who have spilled the blood of the Syrian people and killed tens of thousands of women and children in Hamah, do not hesitate to fabricate a dastardly operation of this type in their desperate attempts to divert attention from their stinking treason and scandals.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran**Communique No 2,155***JN191740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Communique No 2,155 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With firm faith in God and principles, a morale that is reinforced daily, an exemplary performance, and great enthusiasm for duty, the soldiers of justice continue their combat missions to cleanse the land and annihilate the aggressors. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today.

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our victorious forces in the VII Army Corps front continue to inflict heavy losses on the remnants of the aggressors in the narrow enclave in the Al-Faw peninsula and to subject them to heavy fire from the Air Force, the Navy, artillery, armor, and other weapons.

2. At 0750 [0450 GMT] today, 46 planes from our heroic Air Force together swooped down on military concentrations between the cities of Hamidiyeh and Ahvaz that the enemy had prepared for aggression against our country. The enemy thought that it could use these concentrations to carry out its mean designs. He did not know that our eagles were lying in wait for him. They attacked these concentrations with heavy bombs and

missiles, destroying the following targets and burying the scorched bodies of the Khomeyniites under their debris: a. some 601 tents and trailers including enemy soldiers and commanders; and b. 46 tanks and armored cars. Having made sure that they had left nothing undamaged, our eagles returned safely with their planes to the homeland. Our thanks and praise to you, O heroes of our Air Force — command, eagles, officers, and men. May God reward you for your good deeds for your people.

3. Our planes carried out 218 combat missions against enemy concentrations and supply lines on all fronts, inflicting on the aggressors heavy losses in personnel, arms, ammunition, and equipment. Squadrons of our planes also launched a devastating raid on factory-19 for technical war industries near Ahvaz at 1615 [1315 GMT] today, destroying it completely and comprehensively. At 0838 [0538 GMT] today, our planes carried out a successful raid on Khark Island. Having carried out these missions, the planes returned safely to their bases. God be praised.

4. The heroes of the helicopter gunships inflicted heavy losses on the remnants of aggressors during 106 combat missions. The heroes returned safely to their bases. God be praised.

5. Our fighters in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah killed four enemy soldiers and destroyed an ammunition dump, an infantry position, and a machinegun emplacement.

6. The criminal enemy shelled the outskirts of Mandali with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 March 1986

'Large' Maritime Target Hit*JN200949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out an air raid against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast this morning, scoring an accurate and effective hit. A military spokesman told INA that the maritime target was hit at 0910 [0610 GMT] today and that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base.

Maritime Targets Hit, Bridge Destroyed*JN201019 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi Navy has dealt blows to a new bridge in Abadan Tappeh, to two large maritime targets, and to a third very large maritime target near the Iranian coast. All Iraqi naval units safely returned to base. An Iraqi Military spokesman told INA that the first blow, against a bridge the Iranian forces had established in Abadan Tappeh, took place at 0055 [2155 GMT 19 March] today, destroying it. The spokesman said the second blow was against two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast and took place at 0139 [2239 GMT 19 March] today, scoring accurate and effective hits. The spokesman said the third blow was against a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0140 [2240 GMT 19 March] today, scoring an accurate and effective hit.

Third Maritime Target Hit

*JN201252 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1240 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With God's help and the zealous mens determination, our giant Air Force planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1135 [0835 GMT] today and safely returned to base.

This is the second target that our valiant eagles destroyed today. Thus, the total number of maritime targets that our eagles and the lions of the sea destroyed today amounts to 5 targets.

May God bless the valiant men. We thank God for His victory.

[Dated] 20 March 1986

Lloyds: Liberian Tanker Hit

JN201132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] London, 20 Mar (INA) — The British Lloyd's insurance company has stated that the Liberian tanker *Atlanticos* was hit

by a missile this morning while it was near Khark Island. In a cable to the INA office in London a short while ago, Lloyd's said the oil tanker was set on fire. Lloyd's added that the tanker, which weighs 122,248 metric tons and was built in 1974, is operated by (Casus) Company Limited, headquartered in London.

Jets Attack Shadegan

*JN201529 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1517 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Air Force, which continues to pursue enemy remnants, makes its daily attacks on vital enemy installations that are closely linked to the war effort. At 1300 [1000 GMT] today, our planes launched a violent raid on the television relay stations in the Shadegan area, scoring accurate hits and destroying them. At 1304 today other planes launched a raid on the Shadegan gas station, destroying it and setting it ablaze.

After carrying out these two duties, the brave eagles returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland, praised be God.

[Dated] 20 March 1986

Birri Refuses King Hassan's Invitation to Conference

NC200751 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Informed diplomatic sources have noted that Morocco has joined in the current efforts to unravel the knots in which the Lebanese situation is entangled. Moroccan King Hassan II has personally invited Minister Nabih Birri to attend the justice ministers conference that will convene in Morocco. Informed political sources say that the Moroccan king has tried hard to persuade Minister Birri to respond to the invitation in order to bring about a relaxation of political tension in Lebanon. However, Minister Birri has told the Moroccan ambassador in Beirut that he will not be able to attend the conference. Birri is sending the Justice Ministry secretary general to represent Lebanon at the Conference.

Al-Husayni Leaves for Conference in Morocco

NC191251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni left Beirut at noon today for Morocco, via Paris. He is leading a delegation comprising Deputies Zaki Mazbudi and Fu'ad Al-Tahini; Ihsan Abu Khalil, the secretary general of the Chamber of Deputies; adviser 'Adnan Nadir; and Ahmad Qubaysi. The delegation will participate in the parliamentary conference for Arab-African dialogue, which will begin in Rabat on Friday and will last about 3 days.

Speaker Al-Husayni is expected to deliver a speech to this conference on the general situation in Lebanon, and will examine what the African group can do to assist Lebanon in liberating the south from the Israeli enemy, given that Israel is considered an enemy to both the Arab and African causes.

Papal Envoy Giatti Returns to Vatican

NC200838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Monsignor Giatti left Lebanon this morning for the Vatican via Larnaca. He was seen off by the apostolic administrator Bishop Ibrahim al-Hilu and Luciano Angeloni, the papal nuncio in Lebanon. It has been learned that Monsignor Giatti is scheduled to return to Lebanon after the Easter holidays to continue his mission.

Strike Force Begins Deployment in West Beirut

NC191523 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The strike force has begun to deploy in its five assigned positions in accordance with the resolution adopted by the West Beirut National Action Committee. At 0900 today, a mechanized unit consisting of 200 men and 9 vehicles set out from the first post in Al-Rawshah, which is the group's headquarters, toward its second position in Karakas. Deployment in the

three remaining positions — the Holiday Inn, Qasqas, and the stadium — will take place today.

The force that has moved into Karakas includes members of the Progressive Socialist Party, the Amal Movement, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Arab Democratic Party, the Lebanese Communist Party, and the Arab Socialist Union — the Nasirite Organization.

Agreement by Pro-'Arafat Groups, Hizballah, IUM

NC191242 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] According to diplomatic sources in Beirut, the pro-'Arafat Palestinian groups made an agreement with Hizballah and the Islamic Unification Movement [IUM] late last month. The same sources added that the purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the power of these three parties, to enable them to confront the Amal Movement and other leftist parties in West Beirut. It is reported that the three factions have formed a joint coordination committee to allocate their various military responsibilities.

Further on Fighting in Beirut, Al-Matn Areas**Fighting, Snipers Reported**

NC191444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Fighting has been going on for some time now along the commercial markets combat line as far as Sodeco, Ra's al-Nab', and Al-Tayyounah. Shells have reportedly been fired at Corniche Bisharah al-Khuri from Sodeco and at Ra's al-Nab' from Dar al-Tawlid. Clashes are also taking place on the Museum-al-Barbir combat line, and 12.7-mm weapons are being used.

We were informed a short while ago that snipers in Primo are shooting at Bisharah al-Khuri. The crossing points between the two parts of Beirut are passable despite the fact that the latest flare-ups have made things rather risky. The members of the security committee are trying to deal with the situation.

Cease-Fire in Beirut

NC191746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Following contacts with the leaders concerned, the Central Security Committee reached a comprehensive cease-fire agreement for the combat lines in the capital and its southern suburb. The accord took effect at 1800 today.

Apart from two shells that struck the Cola-Al-Tariq al-Jadidah area at 1750 — 10 minutes before the scheduled cease-fire — compliance with the agreement began precisely at 1800. A guarded calm prevails along the combat lines this evening.

Various types of weapons were used in some earlier fighting that took place in the commercial center and reached Al-Tayyounah. According to sources on the Security Committee, all crossing

points between the two sectors of the capital have been closed, including the one linking Al-Kafa'at and Al-Murayjah in the southern suburb.

The bodies of two women have been taken to the American University Hospital. One of the girls, Dunya Nur al-Din, was killed by sniper fire in Al-Shiyah. The other, Fatnah Muhib al-'Adlah, was killed when a shell hit her family's home in Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq. Fu'ad al-'Azzah, his wife, and their children, Usamah, Lina, and Zaynah, were wounded. Another woman, Jumana al-Muqallid, was also injured, and was brought to the American University Hospital. Hasan 'Akkush was wounded on Bisharah al-Khuri Street and taken to the Al-Barbir Hospital.

At approximately 1615, two shells were fired at Al-Bastah from the east, causing a number of casualties. Those affected were immediately taken to the American University Hospital.

Amal, Hizballah Gunmen Clash

NC191809 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Machineguns and rockets were employed in the fighting that pitted members of Amal against gunmen from Hizballah in Al-Bastah and Al-Nuwayrah [West Beirut] between 1700 and 1745 today. The clashes reportedly began when a Hizballah group set up a mortar in the area. A house occupied by a woman and her three children was hit.

Al-Matn Area Under Shellfire

NC200711 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] It was reported from northern Al-Matn a short while ago that at 0730 today Army posts and residential areas in 'Ayn al-Tuffahah and Al-Qaysariyah were subjected to artillery and rocket fire from positions held by Syrian Social Nationalist Party gunmen and their allies in Shrin and Shwayya hills. Security sources said that the villages of 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, Al-Qaysariyah, and Dulb in the Bikfayya area were still coming under shellfire at 0820. The Shrin and Shwayya 82-and 120-mm mortar and flat-trajectory weapon emplacements are being used in the shelling.

Airport Lighting Equipment Stolen

NC192043 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Middle East Airways [MEA] has announced the cancellation of its scheduled flight from Beirut to Kuwait this evening. It has done so in accordance with a decision made by the

General Directorate of Civil Aviation in coordination with MEA to discontinue night flights. This follows the theft of lighting cables on the western runway by unidentified individuals 2 days ago, making take-off operations at night impossible. Some 700 meters of cable were stolen and it will take 15 days to lay new ones.

Further on Israeli, 'Resistance' Clashes in South

Shelling Damages Israeli Tank

NC191054 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A resistance group used 107-mm rockets to shell Birkat Risha at dawn today. The position under fire took direct hits, which killed those manning it. Immediately afterward, helicopters evacuated the victims to the occupied Arab territories and the area was raked with heavy-caliber machinegun and tank fire.

The faithful resistance groups have also claimed responsibility for the destruction of an Israeli tank in (Tallat al-Ahmadiyah). The tank was enticed into the area and a mine was detonated, badly damaging the tank and killing the crew. This tank was used to shell the town of Qaniyah after each resistance operation in western Al-Biq'a.

In another development, and for the second time in the last 4 days, the occupation forces shelled the town of Yuhmur from their positions in the Burghu triangle today. A number of houses were damaged in the shelling.

3 Killed by Mine

NC191821 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Petro Na'san, Ghassan Krikorian, and Ilyas Mushantif, from the village of Al-Bramiyah, were killed this afternoon when a mine exploded on the Tall al-Nuhas Road inside the security zone.

Amal Checks Israeli Advance

NC201020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Israeli forces besieged the township of Haris today. They attempted to advance toward the town at 0830, but their advance was checked by an Amal Movement group. Violent battles raged between the two sides. There have been no reports on losses so far. At 1045, the Israeli forces again tried to enter Haris. Amal Movement groups repulsed the attempt and are now preventing the Israeli forces from achieving their objectives.

Reportage on Cairo Attack on Embassy Employees**Names Released; Officials Comment**

TA200522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Eti Tal'or, the wife of an Israeli Embassy employee, was killed in the shoot-out in Cairo, and another three Israelis — a woman and two men — were wounded. An organization called the Revolutionaries of Egypt has claimed responsibility for the attack in an announcement issued to Western news agencies. This organization had also claimed responsibility for two previous attacks against Israeli diplomats in Cairo.

Reports from Cairo said that the assailants used their car to block the path of the vehicle in which the Israeli diplomats were driving, and they attacked them from another car. The victims were rushed to a nearby hospital. A special aircraft left Israel for Cairo last night with physicians from the Tel Hashomer Hospital.

Reporters in Cairo have reported that Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, who were in Cairo for the Tabah talks, visited the injured.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, who is visiting Cairo, told our correspondent Menahem Friedman that he will continue with the planned talks but he has canceled his tours of tourist sites. He added that if he had canceled the entire visit, he would have given the assailants exactly what they wanted.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres expressed deep shock and said he expects to get the details of the murder. He also expressed his conviction that the perpetrators of the act will be caught and duly punished.

Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed the hope that the Egyptian security forces will take stiffer measures to guarantee the well-being of Israelis in Cairo.

Peres: Dialogue To Continue

TA200957 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0948 GMT
20 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that the terrorists trying to cripple peace in the Middle East will not dictate to Israel what efforts toward peace it should make. We will continue the dialogue with Egypt regardless of all the pain because there is no alternative. We will likewise not give up on the Jordanian opportunity, the prime minister said.

I hope, Shim'on Peres added, that the Egyptian Government will take all the necessary measures to capture the perpetrators of the act and bring them to trial, and will also prevent the recurrence of such incidents. Mr Peres added that Israel's response to the forces that desire war in the Middle East is a strong defense establishment which is confident and modern. Shim'on Peres made these remarks in Tel Aviv about an hour ago at a meeting of Labor Party veterans.

Further Peres Remarks

TA201136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has referred to the incident in Cairo while addressing the Labor Party veterans conference. Let us hear excerpts of his statements:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] In spite of the tragedy of the grave event in Cairo last night, the prime minister said, people must not forget that saying the word peace necessitates a constant struggle against Middle Eastern peace-hating elements.

[Peres] It is not surprising that there are terrorists and organizations who want to ignite a huge blaze in the Middle East by way of terrorism, murder, and violence. They will not dictate to us our efforts toward peace. We hope to achieve peace not because of, but in spite their opposition, despite the assassinations.

[Correspondent] I believe, the prime minister said, that the Egyptian Government led by President Mubarak continues to regard peace as the correct alternative for Egypt and the Middle East. We know he is operating under constraints.

[Peres] Like us, he must eliminate violence which has been trying to threaten the hope for peace in our region. I am hopeful that the Egyptian Government will take all the measures necessary to capture and try the assailants, and take all the means necessary to ensure that such incidents do not recur. It is that government's responsibility and duty.

[Correspondent] It is necessary to bear in mind, the prime minister said, that the real victim of terrorism is the Arab world itself.

[Peres] Some of the Arab world leaders are trapped by fear, paralyzed by their fear for their lives, and do not know where to go. The Palestinian tragedy is the result of terrorism, not the other way round. From the mufti through 'Arafat to Abu Nidal, Hawatimah, and Habash — these are the ones who turn the Palestinian problem into an insoluble problem. Those who are afraid of them are the victims of this intimidation campaign. [end recording]

Mubarak Pledges Commitment to Peace

TA201044 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1038 GMT
20 Mar 86

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak told Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in Cairo that despite the murderous attack, Egypt will continue to improve ties with Israel.

The tourism minister told reporters in Cairo that in the course of their meeting, the Egyptian president repeatedly emphasized his commitment to peace with Israel.

The Egyptian president invited Minister Sharir to meet him this morning after last night's attack on the Israeli pavilion in Cairo.

Further Mubarak Remarks

TA201111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Egypt is lifting all restrictions on its trade and tourism relations with Israel. In the near future, Israel will enjoy a status similar to that of other countries in the trade and tourism spheres. These remarks were made this morning by President Husni Mubarak during a talk with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir. Minister Sharir told our correspondent Menahem Friedman that President Mubarak is committed to the Camp David accords, and will continue efforts to strengthen peace.

Egyptian Minister Expresses Regret

TA200529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres here in Jerusalem expressed deep shock at the murder, and said he was sure that those responsible would be caught and brought to justice. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed the hope that the Egyptian security authorities would take vigorous steps to ensure the safety of all Israelis in Cairo. The attack was also condemned by the Egyptian tourism minister:

[Begin Sultan recording] Well, to start with, I would like to pay my deepest sympathy and condolences for what has happened, especially for the young lady who passed away. Again, one can just see that the main intention is to damage the relations between the two countries, and the main intention is to pull back the legs of Egypt in the hostilities existing in the area. And, the third one is to hit severely again tourism to Egypt, being one of the main potential of foreign currency earnings to the Egyptian economy in the short run. [end recording]

Objective Not Tourism Minister

TA200828 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Mar 86
pp 1, 9

[Report by Cairo correspondent Ma'ayana Shenhar, Shefi Gabay, Refa'el Mann, and Yosef Walter]

[Excerpt] Yitzhaq Bar-Moshe, the spokesman of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo, last night denied reports by several foreign news agencies that the objective of the attack was to hit Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir and his entourage. Bar-Moshe said that Sharir and his entourage left the fairgrounds a long time before the attack took place.

Tourism Minister Curtails Visit

TA201310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir is cutting short his visit to Egypt and will return to Israel this evening. Our correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports that the directors general of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry who completed another round of the Tabah talks will be returning with him.

Minister Sharir today concluded his talks with President Mubarak, the Egyptian prime minister, and the tourism minister. The visit to tourism sites was canceled as a result of the attack on the Israelis last night near the site of the International Fair in Cairo.

Schiffer: Tabah Talks Affected

TA200539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres last night expressed deep shock over the murder in Cairo, and added that he expects to receive the details of the attack. He added that he is praying that the wounded will recover. Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said last night that this is a serious incident -- a third time official Israeli representatives have been attacked in Cairo; we expect the authorities in Egypt to step up security so that such incidents do not recur. I hope, Mr Shamir said, that the measures leading to the capture of the attackers of this horrendous deed will be taken and the assailants will be punished.

One must bear in mind some facts regarding these incidents: In less than one year, three attacks have been perpetrated against Israeli representatives in Egypt and for the second time the incident ended in the death of an Israeli. Another point to be emphasized is that so far, the perpetrators of these deeds have not been captured. The Israeli representatives in Cairo have become targets for extremist elements there.

Political sources in Jerusalem told us this morning that the talks on Tabah and all the other issues that are currently being debated and that have to do with bilateral issues should continue. These incidents should not be allowed to halt this process. At the moment, a large delegation headed by Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche and Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, is in Cairo, where it will remain for talks on Tabah until this evening.

Perhaps one more matter that should be highlighted in this context is that no doubt the murder will affect the Inner Cabinet's debate on Tabah, scheduled for as early as next week, as the issue of the arbitral compromise has developed. Despite the claims by political circles that the attack has no effect on the Tabah talks, certainly these talks will be tarnished somewhat by these events in Cairo.

Rabin Cautions Syria Against Self-Delusion

TA191131 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The defense minister says that Syria has not achieved strategic parity with Israel, and its leaders will only be deluding themselves if they believe they can overpower the IDF. However, history has taught us that the Arab leaders' reasoning is not always on the same wave length as ours, and they might be drawn into wars from which they will emerge defeated.

The defense minister added that Syria is on the verge of an economic crisis. Almost daily there are extended electric power cuts in all its cities and its foreign currency reserves have plunged to a 20-day low level. However, this has not prevented President al-Asad from continuing to build up his army and he is demanding his people make sacrifices so that his determination to achieve a strategic balance with Israel will not be hindered. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Minister Rabin was addressing the Knesset in reply to motions to the agenda regarding the Syrian president's threats.

Force 17 Claims Responsibility for Jerusalem Car Bomb
NC200932 Paris AFP in English 0919 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, March 20 (AFP) — The Force 17 Group, which provides bodyguards to Palestinian Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has claimed responsibility for a car bomb which exploded in Jerusalem early Thursday killing one person and wounding three others.

Israeli police had suggested the bomb was part of an inter-gang rivalry and said all the casualties had criminal records.

In a call to a Western press agency Force 17 said the Zafir al-Masri group — named after the recently murdered mayor of the West Bank town of Nablus — carried out the attack in the poor Katamon area of Jerusalem "leaving dead and wounded."

Two Gaza Strip Residents Murdered 19 Mar
TA191605 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1550 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Our military correspondent is passing on the following report: Two residents of Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip were murdered at noon. They were shot in the office which belongs to one of the victims. The murderers, apparently two in number, arrived in a private car, entered the office in the heart of the town, and fired bullets at close range. One died instantly; the other died of his wounds several hours later.

Our military correspondent Gay Zohar notes that the security forces launched searches and an investigation. Roadblocks have been erected.

'Terrorists' Admit to Murders
TA192015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] This evening the murder mystery of two Khan Yunus residents was solved. The security forces in area captured two terrorists who admitted to the murder. They also handed over the weapons they used. It has been reported that incident was based on the suspicion that the two people murdered had collaborated with the Israeli Administration.

A few minutes ago the IDF spokesman announced that two rooms in which the assassins had been living had been demolished by the security forces.

ASL Soldier, 3 Civilians Killed By Bombs
TA191815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A soldier from the army of southern Lebanon (ASL) and three civilians were killed in two terrorist attacks today in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht report that the ASL soldier was killed when he was trying to dismantle a katyusha rocket which had been discovered near the village of Al-'Ayshiyah. A roadside bomb exploded near the Beaufort Castle when a car passed the site. The car fell into a nearby ravine and its three Lebanese passengers were killed.

IDF Soldier 'Slightly' Wounded Near Nablus
TA191640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] This afternoon an IDF soldier was slightly wounded in a stone-throwing incident near the Balatah refugee camp near Nablus. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the soldier was wounded by splinters of broken glass from window of the truck in which he was riding. He was treated on the spot. The security forces are investigating.

Former Ramallah Mayor Returns From Jordan
TA191540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Former Ramallah Mayor Nadim al-Zarru, who hastily left his town following the murder of Nablus Mayor Zafir al-Masri, returned to it secretly this past Sunday. However, he is avoiding questioning by journalists.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Al-Zarru had been considered as one of the candidates for the Ramallah mayoralty, but after the Al-Masri murder he promptly declared that he had never supported the appointment of territory residents for the municipalities, following which statement he left for Jordan.

Denies Amman Visit
TA191555 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 19 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by special AL-QUDS correspondent]

[Text] Ramallah — Nadim al-Zarru has announced that he has not presented any official request to the responsible authorities on the possibility of assuming the mayoralty of Ramallah municipality. He said that consultations were held among the town's residents to discuss the current situation and particularly, that of the municipality, and that these consultations resulted in the decision that it was necessary to hold elections to choose a municipal council.

On the other hand, Al-Zarru denied an Israel radio report yesterday that he had returned from Amman secretly, and said: I am a citizen of Ramallah and have been residing in the town continuously.

Arab Mayors To Be Appointed to Three W. Bank Towns

TA200943 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 20 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] The government intends to simultaneously appoint three leading West bank notables in "a few weeks' time" as mayors of Hebron, Ramallah and Al-Birah, cabinet sources told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday. The simultaneous appointment is in line with requests from the candidates and with a high-level Israeli decision following the assassination of Nablus mayor Zafir al-Masri. The three mayors will probably be Jamil al-Tarifi in Al-Birah, Dr. Muhammad al-Ja'abari in Hebron and 'Adil Qassis in Ramallah.

The government decision to appoint the three men followed talks with leading West Bank notables, including one or more of the candidates, who firmly opposed holding elections for mayor. The notables argued that elections would be marked by terrorist intimidation, and the results would not necessarily reflect the will of the majority of the inhabitants of the territories.

Defence Minister Rabin and, to a lesser extent, Prime Minister Peres are known to oppose elections, as the election of anti-Husayn extremists would be a major obstacle to any interim arrangement with Jordan -- which is one of the government's main intermediate aims. The government is delaying the appointments for a few weeks to allow more time to elapse after the Al-Masri killing. Observers think it likely that Hafiz Tuqan, the acting mayor of Nablus, would also agree to a permanent appointment after the three others take office.

Mustafa 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah, dismissed mayor of Hebron, was denied permission to leave the West Bank last week to attend a conference in Saudi Arabia of the Arab Cities' Organisation, it was learned last night. A source in the military government said that Al-Natshah had asked to attend to the conference as "mayor of Hebron." Since he is not the mayor, the source said, the request was "irrelevant." The mayors of Bethlehem, Bayt Jalah, Bayt Sohur and Jericho were not invited to the conference, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj said last night.

W. Bank Figure Denies Accepting Hebron Mayoralty

TA191535 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by special AL-QUDS correspondent]

[Text] Hebron -- Muhammad Rashid al-Ja'abari denied a local newspaper report that he will assume the mayoralty of Hebron municipality. He said that this report is baseless as Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories, informed him during a meeting on 26 February at Bet El that the Civil Administration does not want, at the moment, to appoint an Arab mayor to Hebron's municipality or to change the existing situation there.

Al-Ja'abari added that the attempt by Israeli authorities to link the issue of the municipalities to political moves and self-rule will

not encourage any personality to come forward and take over the municipalities of Ramallah, Al-Birah, and Hebron.

Municipalities in Territories Request More Authority

TA191645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Three municipalities in the territories have submitted requests to the Civilian Administration for their area of authority to be expanded. The requests were based on the grounds of natural growth and several cases in which the municipalities wish to have neighboring quarters joined to them so they can impose taxes on them.

Knesset Member (MK) Ge'ula Kohen [Tehiya] has accused the Civilian Administration in the territories of encouraging the municipalities to submit the requests. She told our correspondent Zvi Yisre'eli that this is a question of state-owned land, some of which is intended for Jewish settlement. MK Kohen describes this policy as anti-Zionism running riot. Our correspondent Arye Gus was given the explanation that, in any event, there is no question of a blow to be struck against existing or planned Jewish settlements.

UN Development Program Planned for Territories

TA191830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Israel has agreed to the opening of a permanent United Nations Development Program representation which will work to pump funds from the various UN institutions into Judeaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. This was announced by the coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmu'el Goren, to UN officials and officials from the U.S. Administration in Washington. Mr Goren told them that Israel will not interfere in the matter of the channeling of funds as long as Israel's security interests are not damaged. He added that Israel will not prevent the establishment of factories in the territories if their financial backing comes from Arab funds. This has been reported by our Washington correspondent Razi Barqay.

AL-QUDS Editorial Assails Territories Policy

TA191940 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Land and Peace, Not Land in Return for Peace"]

[Text] In the course of a statement by Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin he said that our problem is to search for peace and to prove that we are not impatient and possess the necessary capability to allow us to continue our control over the occupied territories without a time limit.

From this premise Israel's problem, as described by the Israeli Defense Minister, is summarized in the search for Arab and Palestinian parties who accept whatever Israel proposes as the solution to their problems. "Peace", however, is obvious and clearly defined. Whoever wants to achieve real peace must display a desire to do so. The Arab world, including the PLO, has

adopted the principle of peace through talks in an international peace conference to be attended by all the parties in the conflict.

Jordan and the PLO have, moreover, signed an agreement affirming the principle of land in return for peace. These positions are a fundamental change from all stances adopted by the Arabs since 1948. Israel, however, has refused even to consider or study these changes.

Israel desires a peace that will guarantee its permanence in the land that it occupied in 1967. When Israel talks about the search for peace, it means the search for personalities who accept the principle of land and peace, not the principle of land in return for peace, since Israel wants land and peace.

When Israel says that it has endless patience and the capability to continue control over the occupied territories, Israel means

that it possesses the capability to keep the occupied territories until it finds individuals who are ready to accept the principle of separating the residents from the land and who acknowledge that the Palestinian residents are no more than a minority living on the land of greater Israel.

When Israel says that it is trying to improve the quality of life of residents of the occupied territories who are living under the occupation, it is saying that occupation can be just and fair.

For our part, we say that the lack of peace is based on concepts of material power and not on the power of justice or the desire to achieve a just, durable, and comprehensive peace for future generations — the same generations that should be ready to pay a heavy price for these concepts.

ALGERIA

Growth of Algerian-Tunisian Cooperation Viewed *LD191356 Algiers APS in English 1114 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Tunis, 19/03/86 (APS) — The search for rational and scientific basis able to lead to an economic integration and a permanent concertation [as received] among the two country's high officials at a higher level and in all the sectors are the main foundations for a sincere and a confident cooperation which is being daily developed between Algeria and Tunisia. Since, notably the signing of the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord in 19 March 1983, by President Chadli Bendjedid and President Habib Bourguiba. [sentence as received] Since then this historic text became a source of reference and a privileged tool of a multiform action based on fraternity, solidarity and good neighbourliness, principles to which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania adhered several months later.

The Politburo of the FLN Party which met on latest [as received] February expressed its satisfaction, a feeling that the Destourian Socialist Party shares especially, with the strong cooperation with our sisters Tunisia and Mauritania.

Moreover, the edification of the Greater Maghreb has been and still remains one of the main claims of Arab Maghreb generations since the colonialist era. The national charter affirmed and underlined that building the Greater Maghreb represents for the Algerian revolution a fundamental choice and a strategic position.

At a practical level, the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord was put into implementation through the conclusion of a series of accords and common projects whereas in bordering zones, common industries have been created in conformity with the two countries leaders firm will to make of these regions poles of development.

Other projects are to be fixed by the high level joint commission, met in its sixth session, in June 1985 in Algiers then finalized at the meeting at the end of September in the Algerian capital between the Algerian and Tunisian prime ministers Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi and Mohamed Mzali. However, the two sides has expressed deep satisfaction with the good results this bilateral cooperation has yielded, but on the other hand, deplored the persistence of the conflict opposing Morocco and Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.

Algeria which does not believe in a sentimental, conjunctual tactic unity has since the first meeting between President Chadli Bendjedid and President Habib Bourguiba committed itself to translate the clearly stated principles in the treaty.

Resident Moroccans Pressured To Change Citizenship *LD131951 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 13 Mar 86*

[Text] Paris, Mar. 13 (MAP) — Algerian authorities resort to every means including blackmail to compel Moroccan cadres

(engineers, architects, physicians) living in Algeria to take Algerian nationality, well-informed sources indicated.

The sources cited the case of an engineer who was forced, when he expressed the desire to return home, to work for five years in Algerian administration, or to pay the equivalent of five million dirhams to the Algerian state. Other Moroccan citizens presenting no interest for Algiers are treated otherwise: several means are used to harass them and force them to leave the country.

The Moroccan citizens' only comfort lies in the feelings of friendship and brotherhood vowed to them by the Algerian brotherly people most heartily wishes the normalization of relations between the two countries. [sentence as received]

As to the economic situation in Algeria, the same sources underlined that the high cost of living has reached an alarming level indicating in this respect that meat costs 100 Algerian dinars per kilo, tomatoes 40 AD, onions 50 AD, tea 40 AD. As to flour and fruits, they are merely nonexistent in the market. Faced to this alarming situation, Algerian authorities found no other way to divert attention than spread false rumours claiming that "The economic situation in Morocco was disastrous", but what a cold consolation, the sources said.

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Anti-Imperialism Conference

Address by Moro Front Leader *LD191511 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 9, March 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Nur al-Din Miswari, leader of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the Philippines in his speech in the morning session of the second international conference of the international centre has expressed the solidarity of his front with the Libyan Arab people in courageously combatting against imperialism, racism and reaction. He has denounced imperialism onslaughts to achieve its hegemony on struggling nations worldwide, calling for adopting what the leader of the revolution has laid down as regards achieving our unity and solidarity.

He also points out that USA controls the United Nations, thus it stands against the fulfillment of peace and justice in the world at large.

He, further, calls for having the speech of the leader of the revolution as a basis for the sessions of conference and also for having the proposal of establishing the Green Army to combat imperialism and the like. Moreover, he calls for adopting the proposal regarding the establishment of international centre in unified fronts for which the leader of the revolution will be its commander.

On the situation in the Philippines, Mr Miswari says that there are 10 million people displaced in this region awaiting the establishment of a unified front and they are striving against imperialism. They, he adds, have stood against Marcos until his downfall. A new administration has replaced him, but, he contin-

ues, the problems faced by his people are still unsolved. Hence, MNLF, he adds, will continue the fighting as long as the same policy still goes on in the Philippines.

Telegram Sent to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD191512 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 8, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — On concluding its sessions the Second International Conference of the international centre has sent the leader of the revolution a telegram. It reads: "Brotherly revolutionary leader, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi greetings of revolutionary struggle.

The revolutionary forces comprising the international centre for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism from among movements, parties, progressive states and international revolutionary committees, on assembling at their second general conference on the soil of the great Al-Fateh revolution for the period 15-18 March 1986, salute you, you great leader, and salute through you the honorable and courageous stances of the great 1st September revolution, the Libyan Arab people, your leadership of world revolution and your continuing struggle for freedom worldwide.

The peoples of Martinique, [words indistinct] and Reunion have been awoken by your revolutionary voice which instigates to break our revolution, calling for the elimination of imperialism in all its various forms. Hence, your support, backing and historic stance vis-a-vis the cause of freedom. It is a correct stand upon history, bolstering the struggle of the oppressed peoples which has triumphed representing the will of these people to speed up the elimination of all phenomena of hegemony and containment. [sentence as received]

The memory of revolutionaries cherish with endearment your continuous attention to step up revolution in South America and the time you spend to plan and rationalise the serious revolutionary action in this arena.

We will transform your revolutionary calls that demand the unification of the forces to counter the enemy to bullets, wrecking the ugly face of imperialism and what it entails, for the occupation of Grenada will not go unpunished and the Sandinista revolution as is the case is a support for you in confronting fascism and terrorism. [sentence as received]

O revolutionary leader, Africa, which is proud of you as its son, will widen up the scope of the conflict with the enemy according to your directives with which we are armed upon facing the imperialist aggression, racial discrimination.

For the Kurdish nation and the Red Indian nation your calls for them to break out revolution in the face of terrorism, have strengthened in them the spirit of revolution and will firmly work to establish their free state and build their national character according to the civilised presentation which you have announced.

The Blacks in America, on seeing in your immortal dicta a flame in whose light peoples are shown the way in their holy march towards freedom, will join you in the struggle in the same trench to wreck the tottering imperialist construction.

O revolutionary leader, your revolutionary struggle against Zionism and racism has embodied a revolutionary law of the struggle to combat the capitulatory and defeatist solutions and has stepped up the sacred and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian arab people to redeem Palestine. With your unlimited support and with our arms we will bring liberation into being.

O revolutionary leader, revolution is the decisive solution to freedom. To achieve this, the question of revolution will always be a basis, let alone being the daily, weekly and monthly programme of the international revolutionary committees. [sentence as received] The forces of small nations are the international front for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism and will undertake their historic responsibilities to defend the great 1st September revolution, herald it and safeguard its socialist accomplishments.

It is on the rock of international revolution cohesion that the aggressive onslaught on Al-Jamahiriya will be smashed. The revolution force worldwide, moreover, will always be in one trench to face up to U.S. imperialism with all its nuclear arsenals and devastating fleets. We will be by your side and under your leadership to inevitably score a victory over the enemy. International revolutionary struggle continues.

The second international conference of the international centre."

Burundi, UK Delegates' Speeches

LD191839 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 8, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The delegate of Burundi, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the National Union Party for Progress, in his speech in the evening session, says it is high time the progressive and revolutionary forces are united, pointing out to the initiative taken by Al-Jamahiriya to (?unify) the revolutionary forces worldwide.

The leader of the British Workers Revolutionary Party says in his speech that we should remind Reagan and Thatcher of what really took place in Vietnam, Iran and Nicaragua, for reality, he adds, is different from portraying false victories. He also points out that British imperialism has started under Thatcher launching a war against us — the workers. He emphasizes that we will revenge the Palestinians and the people of South Africa who have fallen victim to the British imperialism, pointing out the failure of U.N. in implementing its resolutions and redeeming the rights of oppressed peoples.

Vanuatu Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD191517 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 9, March 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The minister of foreign affairs of Vanuatu, Mr

Sela Molisa, arrived in Tripoli yesterday afternoon on a visit to Al-Jamahiriyah.

MAURITANIA

President Receives SDAR President's Message

LD122354 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] This evening, Colonel Maayouia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya received Mohamed Salim Ould Salek, general secretary for the Presidency of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR].

Following the meeting, which was attended by the government general secretary, Mohamed Salim Ould Salek made the following statement to colleague Ahmed Y'aqub:

[Begin Ould Salek recording] I had the honor of meeting with His Excellency President Maayouia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya to whom I delivered a message from his brother President Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of SDAR and general secretary of the Polisario. The message pertains to the latest developments in our region and to questions of mutual interest.

My visit and this message fall within the framework of the relations of consultations and goodneighborliness between the SDAR and Mauritania, and also within the framework of the brotherly relations between the two peoples and countries.

Algerian Energy Minister Delivers Friendship Message

LD121915 Algiers APS in English 1024 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Nouakchott, 12/2/86 (APS) — Mr. Belkacem Nabi, C.C. member, minister of energy and chemical industries was audited yesterday in Nouakchott by Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the Military Committee of National Salvation (CMSN).

During this audience, Mr. Nabi transmitted a friendship and fraternity message from President Bendjedid to Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, CMSN president and Mauritanian head of state and referred to the positive results of the friendship and working visit paid in Mauritania and possibilities of the reinforcement of cooperation in fields directly or indirectly linked to the sector he is in charge of.

On this occasion, the two delegations dealt with the relations between the two countries particularly on the occasion of the achievement of the two important economic projects which constitute, according to the two sides, the solid sittings for the construction of the Great Maghreb.

On another turn, Mr Nabi was audited on Tuesday morning by Mr Sidi Cheikh Abdellahi, interim minister of industry and mines.

Problems of cooperation in the fields of industry and mainly mines were examined.

MOROCCO

Foreign Affairs Minister Meets With GCC's Bisharah

LD191803 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
19 Mar 86

[Text] The second day of the official visit of the GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah to Morocco was marked by the working session he had this afternoon with Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali in the presence of the delegation from the GCC Secretariat. In a statement on the meeting 'Abdallah Bisharah told Radio Rabat:

[Begin Bisharah recording] I am very happy to say that we have had lengthy talks with our brother and friend, Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs. I have explained to his excellency conditions in the Gulf region in light of the Iranian occupation of Arab Iraqi territory and in light of the escalation taking place in our area — steps which increased tension. I have also explained to him the steps taken by the GCC members particularly on the diplomatic field. I am happy to say that I was briefed on Morocco's views regarding to these developments, which support the principle of the preservation of Arab territorial integrity in that important region.

We also touched on numerous other issues of interest to the Arab world and the Arab countries, and I have also been briefed on Morocco's views in these areas. Frankly, I am extremely happy with the positive feelings and the constructive position I have sensed during these talks. [end recording]

Commerce Minister Returns From ICO Talks in Istanbul

LD191403 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Rabat, March 19 (MAP) — Moroccan Minister of Commerce and Industry Tahar Masmoudi returned home Tuesday evening coming from Istanbul where he had attended the second session of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference) permanent committee for economic and trade cooperation.

In a statement he made upon arrival, Mr. Masmoudi said participants in the committee's meeting adopted a number of recommendations aiming at consolidating inter-Islamic economic cooperation, with special emphasis on the "barter" system of commodities' exchange among Islamic countries, insurance concerning exports, eliminating customs barriers and the creation of an Islamic free zone for trade exchange.

Other recommendations, added Mr Masmoudi, dealt with the possibility of creating an Islamic information organism specialized in economic and commercial questions interesting trading and industrial firms in the Islamic world, as well as a system for long-term financing of inter-Islamic trade exchanges.

Participants also decided to conclude an agreement with Islamic countries' central banks on promoting financial cooperation and financing joint industrial projects in the Islamic world, further said Mr Masmoudi.

Protest Marks Shooting of National in Melilla*LD171456 Rabat MAP in English 1215 GMT 17 Mar 86*

[Text] Melilla, March 17 (MAP) — Nearly 2000 Moroccans took to the street Friday in Melilla (a Spanish enclave on the northern Moroccan coast) to protest the slaying of a Moroccan national by a Spanish policeman. Mr Abdelkader Baghoury was shot in the head by a policeman in this occupied city in what was described by Moroccans there as a "racist and arbitrary act". The Moroccan national was buried outside the city of Melilla which is devoid of a Moslem cemetery.

On the other hand, the leader of the Moroccan community in this enclave Mr Aomar Doudouh who was in Sevilla (southern Spain) to receive the prize of "The Association of Right and Democracy" termed "very strange" the circumstances of this incident, for, he said, the family of the victim, who is native of Melilla, was informed of this event only few hours later. Mr Doudouh questioned the official version of the incident saying that when the autopsy was carried out, the coroner turned down the request of the brother of the victim to see the corpse.

SUDAN**TMC Vice Chairman Meets With U.S. Ambassador***JN181745 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Mar 86*

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — The United States has expressed its appreciation and thanks to the transitional government on civilian and military levels for the achievements [words indistinct] and the great democratic attainment represented in the elections for the constituent assembly. This came during the meeting today between Lieutenant General Tajal-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, vice chairman of the Transitional Military Council, and Hume Alexander, U.S. ambassador in Khartoum.

In a statement after the meeting, his excellency the ambassador said that friendly countries expressed happiness over this great democratic achievement thanks to the wisdom of the transitional government. He added that bilateral relations were also discussed during the meeting.

Anya Nya 2 Warns Ethiopia Against Supporting SPLA*JN191731 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 19 (SUNA) — Anya Nya 2 desiring to extend invitation to Sudanese and foreign journalists to visit the previous centres of the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army - SPLA, which are now under the full control of its Anya Nya 2 forces. [sentence as received]

In a statement released here today Anya Nya 2 reported that the journalists visit is aiming at disclosing the reality, of the so-called Sudanese People's Liberation Army which the statement said are in state of fleeing in the Upper Nile District.

The statement added that the Ethiopian regime had waged a desperate attempt to evacuate the remaining loitering about soldiers of SPLA but the Anya Nya 2 had aborted that tentative

and further took captives on Mar 9 those soldiers of John Garang. [sentence as received]

Moreover the statement went on to say that some Ethiopian aircraft had parachuted a number of terrorists from the SPLA troops in a place situation between Mandrug Lowal and Tegaknat to the Ethiopian-Sudanese borders but the Anya Nya 2 troops annihilated them and then seized a large quantity of weapons.

Anya Nya 2 in its statement has warned it would not hesitate in shooting the Ethiopian planes unless the Ethiopians regime stop support to the terrorists of the SPLA forces and its agent John Garang. Our patience is running short as regards the atrocities committed by the Ethiopian regime in southern Sudan via the dissident John Garang.

Rumbek Official's Contact With Outlaws Denied*JN201036 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 20 (SUNA) — An official military source yesterday denied that Rumbek commissioner had been in contact with the outlaws. The source who refuted such claims broadcast by the outlaws' radio said the commissioner, who is an Army brigadier, is still in command of his forces defending the security and integrity of Sudan.

Upper Nile Official Comments on Garang, Security*JN201054 Khartoum SUNA in English 1014 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 20 (SUNA) — Upper Nile acting governor yesterday announced that the people in the Upper Nile categorically reject Garang's endeavours to impose his will on the public opinion in northern and southern Sudan. Following a meeting with TMC Deputy Chairman Gen. Tajal-Din 'Abdallah the governor said people there had condemned Garang's continued attacks on civilians and his looting of their properties and they advocate dialogue for solving differences. The governor said he had stressed to Gen. 'Abdallah that security is prevailing in Upper Nile and they discussed administrative and financial problems facing the region.

SPLM, National Alliance Talks To Begin in Addis Ababa*EA191446 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] The long-awaited conference between SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] and the National Alliance for National Salvation, will commence in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, tomorrow, Thursday 20th March 1986. The SPLA-SPLM delegation arrived in Addis Ababa yesterday evening led by the deputy commander in chief of the SPLA and deputy chairman of the SPLM Provisional Executive Committee, Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuanyin Bol, as the head of the delegation, and the deputy head of the delegation SPLA's chief of staff Lieutenant Colonel William Nuan Bany, and deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Major Arok Thuon Arok, who is the official SPLM-SPLA spokesman to the conference.

In a statement to Radio SPLA on their departure, the spokesman for the SPLM delegation deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Maj Arok Thunon Arok, said that the formation of the SPLM delegation to the conference was made in such a way to reflect the national character of the movement. He disclosed that the SPLM members to the conference comprised two members from eastern Sudan, four from western Sudan, one from northern Sudan and the rest from the south. He stressed that the formation of the delegation also puts into consideration women's representation. In this regard, Sudanese women are represented by three women in the SPLA-SPLM delegation. The spokesman revealed that the SPLA-SPLM leader, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior will attend the opening session of the conference tomorrow.

In conclusion, SPLA-SPLM spokesman to the conference, deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Maj Arok Thunon Arok, expressed hope that the participants will have peaceful deliberations for the stability of the country.

Radio SPLA: Delegates Named

EA200936 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The names of the SPLM-SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-Sudanese People's Liberation Army] delegation to the SPLA-National Alliance conference are as follows: members of the High Command: Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuanyin Bol, head of the delegation; Lieutenant Colonel William Nuan Bany, deputy head of the delegation; and Major Arok Thunon Arok, speaker [as heard] SPLM delegation.

Civilian militants of the movement: Dr Mansur Khalid [foreign minister under Numayri]; Dr Justin Yach Arok; Mr Muhammad Jumah Yusuf; Mr Muhammad Harun Kafi Abrar; Mr John Ruwach Jal; and Mr William Kon Dior Dut.

Members of SPLM-SPLA women's associations: Mrs Fatimah Nyawang Muhammad Abd al-Dafi; Professor Mary Daniel Kodi; and Dr Sittuna Abdullah Uthman.

Military militants of the movement: Brigadier Mat Ipo; Major Deng Aluor Kuol; Major Engineer Mag Macheke; Major Peter Fanum Pany Ping; Major James Jok Ngong; Major Alfred Lado Gore; Major Pagana Amum; Captain Lual Ding Wol; Captain Simon Moridi Dumu; Captain Danile Kodi; Captain Scopus Kenyilo Boro; Captain Professor Bari Wanji; Captain James Wani Iga; Captain Atem Yak Atem; Captain Nyal Ding Nyal; First Lieutenant Morohum Dut Kat; First Lieutenant Malik Agar; First Lieutenant Abu Bakr; and First Lieutenant Timothy Kwek Lwal.

The following is the list of the names of the members of the National Alliance for National Salvation: Dr Ahmad 'Uthman Siraj, secretary general, Union of National Democratic Forces; Dr Lam Akol, secretary general, Sudanese African Congress; Dr Nazil al-Sayyid, secretary general, Islamic Socialist Party; Samuel Lupai Loila vice president, SANU [Sudanese African National Union] Party; Haydar Taha 'Abd al-Latif, Politburo, Socialist Nationalist Party; Salah al-Siddiq al-Hadi, Politburo,

Ummah Party; Mudawwi Ibrahim Adam, Politburo, Socialist Labor Organization; Shawqi Malaki, Politburo, Arab Ba'th Party; Hisham Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir, Politburo, revolutionary committees; Muhammad al-Hasan 'Ali, Politburo, Arab Ba'thist [as heard] Party, Ba'thist Sudan organisation; Muhammad 'Abd al-Hakam, Politburo, Workers and Farmers Party; Goma 'Abd al-Qadir 'Ali, Politburo, Nuba Mountains General Union; Arthur Akwen Chuol, Politburo, SSPA [Southern Sudan Political Alliance]; Muhammad Mahjub 'Uthman, general [as heard] committee, Sudanese Communist Party; Umar Muhajir Muhammadayn, Arab Ba'th Party; 'Abdallah Sirr al-Khatim, Arab Ba'th Party; Al-Hasan Ahmad Muhammad, Arab Ba'th Party; Mahmud Zarruq, NUP [National Unionist Party]; Dr Khalid Yaqi, president, Trade Union Alliance; Awad al-Karim Muhammad, secretary, Trade Union Alliance; Hasan Muhammad 'Ali, treasurer, Trade Union Alliance; Mustafa 'Abd al-Qadir, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Hasan Abu Jabal, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; 'Abd al-Raziq Da'Allah, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Hajju Yaqub, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Dr Adlan al-Hardallu, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Dr Muhammad al-Amin Muhammad, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Muddathir 'Abbas, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Al-Haj 'Uthman, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Mrs Nimat Malik, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance.

Advance group: Dr Mamud Muhammad Husayn, vice-president, Trade Union Alliance; Mukhtar 'Uthman, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; and Dr Taysir Muhammad 'Ali, special envoy, National Alliance.

Garang Attends Opening Ceremony

EA201416 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The meeting between the SPLM-SPLA and the National Alliance for National Salvation has begun in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, today, Thursday 20th March 1986. The opening ceremony was attended by the commander in chief of SPLA and chairman of Sudanese People's Liberation Movement Provisional Executive Committee, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior.

SPLA Radio: Thunder Battalion Shells Garrison 11 Mar

EA151705 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Rad [Thunder] Battalion shelled Akobo [eastern Upper Nile] Army Garrison on 11 March 1986. According to our correspondent in the area, the shelling inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy in both men and materiel.

The operation was masterminded by 1st Lieutenant Manyok Ayei Jok and 2d Lieutenant John Atem Anyet, assisted by Sergeant Major Pik Aret, Sgt Wilson Manot, Sgt Ajak Kwet Ajak and Sgt Garan Nach.

SPLA Radio: Garrison at Bor Attacked

*EA182051 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's
Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 18 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Reports from Bor say (?Acuil Manyong) task force under the overall command of Major (?Akol Manyang) carried out a raid on Bor town at Lambar Garrison early this month. The enemy suffered heavy casualties in men and material.

CHAD

Radio Terms Habre-Goukouni Meeting Plan Rumor

AB182230 Ndjama Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT
18 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Very persistent rumors have been going round these past few days over the eventuality of a meeting between the president, El Hadj Hissein Habre, and one of those protected by Al-Qadhafi — Goukouni Oueddei. What can one think about this meeting [words indistinct]?

The rumors persist and persist. They have been telling us of a forthcoming meeting in Brazzaville between the Government of Chad and its opponents. News, only news. They are only rumors, nothing but rumors. No official declaration has confirmed this meeting of the president of the Republic of Chad, El Hadj Hissein Habre, with the Libyan-protected Goukouni Oueddei. What is certain is that very recently, the OAU exhorted Chadians to give precedence to dialogue in the search for peace in Chad. No other specification was given on this issue and there was no question of a summit meeting on 28 March in Brazzaville.

This said, the position of the legal and legitimate government in Chad has not changed. It is what we all know: Yes, first and foremost, for dialogue with all Chadians who are really desirous of seeing our country take its place among respected countries. The Chadian Government, therefore, favors discussions which may lead to negotiations.

The recent Libreville agreements with the CAC-CDR [Action Coordination Committee-Revolutionary Democratic Council] and the FDT [Chadian Democratic Front] on the return to Ndjama of a large number of guerrilla groups operating in the south and the return of a number of soldiers fleeing their Libyan protectors are all examples crowning the efforts made by the government toward reconciliation.

One therefore asks oneself about the success of the discussions between the government and the allies of Tripoli. In this month of March, after two offensives launched against the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces in the north of the country, what will be the use of a face-to-face meeting between President Hissein Habre and Al-Qadhafi's spokesman, Goukouni Oueddei?

Undoubtedly, one can rightly say that anything can happen in politics, even the most spectacular change, but it seems evident to us that if a meeting were to take place it would go somewhat like this: The GUNT leader will formulate the Libyan conditions which he has been forced to learn by heart, proclaim an Islamic republic in Chad, sign a defense agreement between Ndjama and Tripoli; in short, force the Chadian state to submit itself to the wishes of Colonel al-Qadhafi's regime. The head of state, it is easy to see, will say no; and we will part and we would have spent a lot of time without settling anything. As we have already said, Chadians can understand each other, reconcile with each other, and live in harmony only if the Libyans are kept away.

But this not the case with Goukouni and his followers who are still too attached to their Tripoli trusteeship, and have no freedom of action or of thought. In this case, a summit meeting at the end March for what?

Reconciliation is being forged. We are witnesses to that. What must now be done is to strengthen it through hard and selfless work which will assure our people of their indispensable security in the area of food supplies. It is a battle which we cannot win if we do not struggle against the [words indistinct] which has been fomenting for some weeks now and which demonstrates an incomprehensible carefree attitude. It is better we do not have illusions. There will never be enough ministerial portfolios for all and there will never be a minister if nobody works. Let us therefore leave the politicians to their reflections and let us go to work. Certainly, this is the way that we can help them and it is through helping them that they will in turn help us by thinking over our problems.

Continuing Reportage on Fighting in North

Spokesman Claims Situation Calm

AB191648 Paris AFP in French 1528 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Ndjama, 19 Mar (AFP) — According to concordant sources in Ndjama, the situation has become calm again in the Koro Toro Region (northern Chad) after the violent clashes which on Monday opposed the government forces to Goukouni Oueddei's troops.

Meanwhile, two Chadian prisoners, who were recently captured by the Chadian National Armed Forces, were presented to the press in Ndjama on Wednesday. According to them, the Libyans have a very large quantity of weapons in reserve, particularly tanks and heavy artillery, in north Fada and Faya Largeau. These two soldiers of the CDR (Revolutionary Democratic Council) and FAP (People's Armed Forces) stated that they belonged to the Transitional National Union Government during 3 years.

Envoy on Libyan Reaction

AB191208 Paris AFP in French 0858 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 19 Mar (AFP) — The "bitter" setback and "heavy losses" suffered on Monday by the "enemy forces" at Chicha could give rise to a reaction from Libya, it was affirmed on Wednesday in Paris by the Chadian ambassador, Mr Ahmad Allam-mi. [Words indistinct] Mr Allam-mi said Libyan planes have been overflying the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) who are ready for any eventuality." [quotation mark as received] "The Chadian government, for its part, has not changed, and is ready for any initiative and for any meeting for peace," added Mr Allam-mi.

Alleged Libyan Soldiers Paraded

AB201317 Paris AFP in English 1253 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjama, March 20 (AFP) — Five alleged Libyan soldiers captured during fighting between government and rebel

troops this week were paraded before several thousand people here Thursday. The five men, who had no trace of wounds, were not identified and bore no distinguishing marks on their khaki uniforms. One was black-skinned and the other four were of lighter Mediterranean type. Heavily-guarded, they were paraded in a military vehicle before being stood in front of a platform for government officials, where they were hissed and booed by the crowd.

The five were said to have been captured during fighting round Koro Toro, 500 kilometres (300 miles) north of here between Ndjama government troops and Libyan-backed rebels of the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT). Government officials said the enemy included members of Libya's "Islamic legion", and scores were killed or captured.

Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou told the crowd that all the "Libyan" prisoners held by the government would be returned [words indistinct]. Chad should show the world "that it has five million soldiers determined to boot out the Libyans", he said.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Arrives in Goma En Route to Kampala

AB200826 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0740 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Goma, 19 Mar (AZAP) — The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, arrived late Wednesday morning in Goma from where he will leave for Kampala on Thursday to take part that same day in a meeting of heads of state of Uganda's neighboring countries, at the invitation of president Yoweri Museveni.

This meeting follows the one which brought together, on 27 January at Goma, the founding chairman of the MPR and his counterparts from Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda. Also participating in the Kampala meeting are the presidents of Tanzania, Burundi, and Sudan.

GHANA

Tribunal Continues Treason Trials in Accra

AB191128 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT
18 Mar 86

[Text] At today's sitting of the tribunal trying Mawuli Kofi Dra Goka and 14 others for preparing to overthrow the PNDC [Provisional National Defence Council], the prosecution submitted statements taken from the accused persons. The contents of all but one sought to review the role played by each of the accused persons in preparing to overthrow the government, and aiding their collaborators to escape lawful arrest.

The name of the sixth accused, Kwame Agyeman-Budu, manager of the Bekwai-Asante branch of the Ghana Commercial Bank, was mentioned only in the first statement of the third accused, Kyeremeh Djan, of being aware of the plot. But in his second statement, Kyeremeh Djan denied Agyeman-Budu's involvement. He said he only contacted Agyeman-Budu with the pretence to collect 1,000 cedis for his girlfriend.

In one statement, Agyeman-Budu said he knew Kyeremeh-Djan at Jatokrom in Brong Ahafo when he was there on duty in 1978 as a student leader. He said in May or in June 1983, Djan went to his office to seek his assistance for the printing of certain materials for use by students during their demonstrations. Agyeman-Budu said he advised him against such actions. He said he never saw him again until July 1985, and gave him 500 cedis as a gift. Sitting continues.

The second tribunal trying Alhaji Abubakr Musa, and two others for treason, today heard an address by the prosecution. The accused are charged on two counts of conspiring to commit crime and preparing to overthrow the government. The prosecution claimed that the first accused, Alhaji Musa, agreed to assist the coup plotters, when the third accused, one Abdullahi, who is at large, requested his assistance for petrol and some Nissan buses. It was also Alhaji Musa who took Abdullahi to the second accused, Amrose Afriyie, a petrol station manager, to discuss the arrangement. The prosecution said it was at this stage that Ambrose Afriyie joined the conspiracy.

Quoting some statements by the accused and corroborated by evidence before the tribunal, the prosecution held that there was a common criminal purpose among the accused persons to overthrow the government.

'Judgement' Within Week

AB192216 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT
19 Mar 86

[Text] In Accra, the prosecution at the public tribunal trying Alhaji Abubakr Musa and two others for treason, today completed its address. Judgment in the case is expected next Wednesday [26 March]. The other accused persons are Ambrose Afriyie and one Abdullahi. They are facing two counts of preparing to overthrow the government. They have pleaded not guilty.

Continuing its address, the prosecution said the fact that Afriyie and Abdullahi did not accompany Musa on certain trips in connection with the plot did not exonerate them from the conspiracy since the trips were in furtherance of their crime. With regard to typewritten statement of the accused, the prosecution said they were accurate and should be accepted by the tribunal. It explained that the defense council did not challenge the contents of the statement but only the form in which they were presented. It added that all the charges against the accused have been proved beyond all reasonable doubt and asked that they should be found guilty and convicted accordingly.

At the sitting of the national public tribunal trying Mawuli Kofi Dra Goka and 14 others for preparing to overthrow the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], a prosecution witness, a detective inspector of police denied under cross-examination that statements from the accused persons were taken after they had been subjected to torture. He also denied a suggestion by the defense counsel that he dictated to the accused persons the contents of their statements.

Government Reduces Petroleum Product Prices

AB192212 Accra Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT
19 Mar 86

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has announced a reduction in the prices of petroleum products. The price of premium petrol goes down from 150 cedis per gallon to 140 cedis. Regular goes down from 145 cedis per gallon to 135 cedis, while gas oil is reduced from 130 cedis per gallon to 115 cedis. Oil dealers are warned that severe measures will be taken against any one who sells at the old prices even if the products were lifted from the refinery prior to this announcement. The public must insist on paying the new prices which take immediate effect.

LIBERIA

Doe: Government Seeking More Foreign Exchange

AB182228 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT
18 Mar 86

[Text] The president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has assured local and foreign businessmen that government is working assiduously to secure more foreign exchange for the banking system in order to ease some of the problems faced by businessmen. President Doe also said government was holding talks with the authorities of local banks to reconsider some restrictions which are affecting businessmen operating in the country.

Dr Doe was speaking today at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia during a meeting with Lebanese, Indian, and Liberian businessmen to discuss ways and means of tackling the economic problems of the nation. President Doe, therefore, urged businessmen in the country to continue to deposit their money at local banks as government strives to bring things to normal in the country.

Opposition Coalition Declares Support for Teachers*AB200817 Paris AFP in English 0738 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 20 (AFP) — The opposition coalition of the Unity Party, the Liberia Action Party and the Liberia Unification Party has expressed grave concern over what it calls the "continuous inability of government to meet the legitimate demands of public schoolteachers," the independent *SUN-TIMES* newspaper reported Wednesday [19 March].

A coalition spokesman said the failure by head of state Samuel Doe's government to meet its obligations had led to the present chaotic situation, in which teachers have been on strike for a week against pay cuts and arrears.

The three parties called on the government [to] agree "immediately" to the teachers' "legitimate demands," the *SUNTIMES* reported. They also appealed to the students to express their grievances through "constitutional means."

Minister Denies Linking Politics, Students*AB192136 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott has categorically denied an article in today's edition of the *MIRROR* newspaper which reported that he accused some political parties and individuals of being behind yesterday's rampaging by public schools students in Monrovia. In an interview with newsmen at his office today, Mr Scott described the article headlined: Justice Minister Blames Political Parties, as an outrageous lie. He said at no time during his press conference yesterday did he accuse political parties or politicians of inciting students to go on the rampage, causing damage to private schools and government property.

Minister Scott said it was his impression that the *MIRROR* article was calculated to create tension and confusion and not to convey information, according to a Public Affairs Bureau release issued today. The justice minister said he believed that political parties themselves are more responsible and that there is no evidence that they were behind yesterday's vandalism by students.

Students Attack French School, Whip Parents*AB191310 Paris AFP in English 1248 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 19 (AFP) — Gangs of public school students backing a pay strike by their teachers went on the rampage for the second consecutive day Wednesday, attacking the French community school in the capital and whipping parents who had come to pick up their children, eyewitnesses said.

The gangs tore down gates to the school, hurled stones at buildings, smashed windows, chairs and furniture and forced pupils out of classes. Parents who had come to collect their children were accosted by the gangs and administered whippings.

Eyewitnesses said no one was hurt in the melee, but damage to the facility was estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

About 150 students attend the school, including French nationals and citizens of French-speaking African countries.

Doe Expresses Dismay*AB182214 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 86*

[Text] The president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has expressed dismay over the disorderly conduct of students of the Monrovia Consolidated School System, MCSS, this morning which resulted into damage of property in the Monrovia area. Dr Doe also expressed disappointment over the action of the students at this time when the government was endeavoring to address the problems affecting the teachers of the System.

Commenting further on the students' disorderly behavior this morning, the Liberian leader expressed regret that in spite of the appeal by the education minister, the students resorted to violence and vandalism. Meanwhile, Dr Doe has expressed sincere regret for those individuals and institutions whose property were damaged during the student disturbances and reemphasized his appeal to parents and guardians of students of the Monrovia Consolidated School System to ensure that their children remain at home during the break period.

Concluding, Dr Doe reiterated that it is the government's responsibility to protect life and property, he has, meanwhile, directed the minister of justice to ensure that law and order are maintained.

Witness Denies Cuban Involvement in Coup Attempt*AB191455 Paris AFP in French 1353 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Monrovia, 19 Mar (AFP) — Nine Liberians and 24 Sierra Leoneans took part in the abortive November coup plot against President Samuel K. Doe, but no Cuban national was involved, a witness claimed on Tuesday at the trial of three Liberians charged with participating in the coup plot.

According to this witness, Mr Lawrence Wills, summoned by the prosecution to the trial of James Holder, Anthony Mcquee, and Robert Philips, the 9 Liberians and 24 Sierra Leoneans entered Liberia from Sierra Leone. Although these mercenaries were trained in Sierra Leone at Camp Siaka, built by the Cubans to train the special force in charge of protecting former President Siaka Stevens, the Cubans were not involved in the attempted coup, Mr Wills added.

Following the abortive coup, the Liberian authorities accused Cubans, Ghanaians, Guineans, Ivorians, and Sierra Leoneans of taking a direct part in the coup plot. The author of the coup,

General Thomas Quiwonkpa, was killed during the battles with the troops loyal to President Samuel Doe.

NIGERIA

New Plan Will Combat Illegal Immigrants

AB191235 Paris AFP in French 0846 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Lagos, 19 Mar (AFP) — The Nigerian government announced Tuesday evening that civil servants specializing in immigration problems would be integrated into each of the 300 Nigerian local government areas, in the framework of a new plan of action against illegal immigration. An official communique issued in Lagos Tuesday quoting the interior minister, John Shagaya, said that the local governments would each be provided with an immigration official who, in cooperation with various other security services, would be in charge of pursuing illegal immigrants.

According to Shagaya, the aim of this plan is to put an end to the illegal influx of foreigners to Nigeria, whose prosperity, which is now affected by the economic recession, has attracted numerous victims of the crisis from neighboring countries over the years.

In February 1983, and May 1985, Lagos expelled about 2.7 million illegal immigrants, including a large number of Ghanaians, accused of fueling delinquency and depriving Nigerians of jobs. On 28 February 1986, Nigeria, which is preparing a national citizen's identification system, reopened its borders, except that with Chad, closed for 20 months.

DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam Arrives

AB190840 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Talks are beginning in Lagos today between Nigeria and the DPRK on ways of strengthening their relations. The minister of external affairs, Dr Bolaji Akinyemi, is to lead the Nigerian delegation, while the DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, Kim Yong-nam, will lead his country's team. Mr Kim arrived in Lagos yesterday to begin a 3-day official visit to Nigeria.

Bauchi State Governor Advocates One-Party Rule

AB182145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In Bauchi, the state governor, Colonel Chris Garuba, has advocated a one-party system of government with a military man as the president. He made the suggestion in the state capital.

Here is Fredman Jack with the rest of the story:

[Begin Jack recording] The governor, who was exchanging views with a committee of members of the Political Bureau, also maintained that the political system of the country could not be conducted without the participation of the military because the military was [words indistinct] Colonel Garuba also maintained that both the federal and state legislatures should be elected by the people. [passage indistinct][end recording]

Air Force Members Warned Not To 'Tarnish' Image

AB191035 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of Air Staff, Air Vice Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, has warned officers and men of the Air Force not to allow themselves to be used for acts capable of tarnishing the image of the Nigerian Air Force. He gave the warning in Lagos yesterday while addressing personnel of the Logistics Command. The chief of Air Staff condemned the role played by some Air Force officers in the last abortive coup plot and stressed the need for them to be loyal to the country at all times.

Air Vice Marshal Alfa disclosed that all the officers acquitted by the Ndiomu Tribunal would not be retained in the Air Force. He said although the decision might be cruel, it is in keeping with military tradition.

SAO TOME

Opposition Groups Announce Merger in Lisbon

LD192311 Lisbon Domestic Portuguese Service in Portuguese 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Two Sao Tomean political opposition groups announced in Lisbon earlier today that they are joining forces against the Pinto da Costa regime in their island republic and are forming a coalition to become the CDOSTP [expansion not given].

They told a news conference that the two groups have agreed to place national independence above their individual interests. They said their main objective is to establish a democratic system in their country that would truly meet the aspirations of the people, if need be by waging an armed struggle.

Asked to comment on the Portuguese Government's attitude to opposition groups from Portuguese-speaking African countries resident in Portugal, the CDOSTP leaders, who asked not to be named, said that the Portuguese stance is unconstitutional.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Sends Message to Mobutu via Official*MB200828 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labour Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has sent a message to Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko. Pascoal Luvualu, a member of the MPLA Political Bureau, left yesterday for Kinshasa where he will be received in audience by the Zairian president.

According to ANGOP, relations between Angola and Zaire took a new turn after the release in Zaire of more than 150 foreign guest workers who had been kidnapped in Andrada, Lunda Norte Province, by the UNITA armed bandits. The UNITA bandits had crossed the Cassai River which serves as the border between Angola and Zaire and later took refuge in Zairian territory to escape the pursuit of the Angolan army.

Return of Released Hostages Sought*AB191924 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Lisbon, March 19 (AFP)— The Government of Angola is seeking the return of 197 foreigners seized and then released into neighboring Zaire by South African-backed rebels, the ANGOLAN NEWS AGENCY ANGOP said on Wednesday.

The hostages, who are mostly from Portugal, the Philippines, Britain, West Germany and Canada, were abducted by rebels of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) from a diamond-mining town in north-eastern Angola on March 1. However, they were released at the weekend into a remote region of Zaire, from where they are now waiting to be picked up. The Portuguese Government has offered to fly them to Lisbon.

The ANGOP dispatch said Angolan Armed Forces had on several occasions ambushed the column of guerrillas who were accompanying the hostages on a march to UNITA headquarters in the south of the country.

It had been Angolan Army pressure which had forced the guerrillas to take their hostages across the Cassai River into Zaire, where they were released, it added.

[Words indistinct] surprise that the Zairian authorities had not informed Luanda immediately that the hostages were on their territory. He added that Angola has a right to retrieve the hostages.

Government Said Preparing Attack on Jamba*MB171223 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 17 Mar 86*

[Text] There are indications that the Angolan Government is preparing a major push against Dr Jonas Savimbi's main base at

Jamba in southern Angola. The Luanda government is said to be planning a sweeping air attack, and as Mario Prespo reports from Lisbon, preparations are well advanced.

[Prespo] The landing strip at Cuito Cuanavale, which is as near as the MPLA can get to UNITA's area of influence, has been recently elongated and reinforced, while over the past few weeks large prefabricated fuel tanks have been brought into Cuito Cuanavale, their base. Preparations are well advanced and intelligence reports say a fresh contingent of Soviet personnel experienced in guerrilla warfare has been flown into Angola from Afghanistan. Soviet officers are said to be behind the preparations of the offensive against Jamba. Dr Savimbi normally operates his headquarters from Jamba, but he has an alternative command post at Licuia, which is closer to the border with South-West Africa/Namibia. On the other hand, UNITA has been intensifying lately its operations in northern Angola, which have reached an intensity unseen until now in the 11-year civil war. This could well indicate that the UNITA leader is aware of the threat which will come from Cuito Cuanavale as soon as the rain stops.

UNITA Leader Confirms Chemical Materials Report*MB200849 Johannesburg International Service in English
0630 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] The chief of intelligence of the UNITA movement in Angola, Brigadier (Cassito Chindondo), who is on a short visit to South Africa, has confirmed French intelligence reports that Soviet Army technicians have flown into Angola to construct special bunkers for the storage of chemical warfare materials.

Brigadier (Chindondo) told Radio RSA in Johannesburg that the building of the bunkers, which had come to the attention of the UNITA movement during the interrogation of captured Angolan Government military officers, could have grave consequences for southern Africa.

Questioned about the presence of the ANC in Angola, Brigadier (Chindondo) said there were three ANC battalions, consisting of about 900 men, fighting with the MPLA forces against UNITA. He said there were about 7,000 SWAPO terrorists in Angola.

GDR Official Arrives in Luanda on Visit*MB171607 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 17 Mar 86*

[Text] Dr Kurt Kleinert, state secretary and director of the Secretariat of the GDR Council of Ministers, arrived in Luanda this morning on a working visit to the People's Republic of Angola. He first paid his heartfelt respects to the immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, the former president Agostinho Neto, by laying a wreath on his memorial in the People's Palace.

Dr Kurt Kleinert is visiting Angola at invitation of Dr Flavio Fernandes, secretary of the Angolan Council of Ministers, and will meet this afternoon Comrade Mariano Puco, the Luanda provincial commissar. In addition to this meeting, Dr Kleinert will meet Comrade Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matross, secretary

of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for the state [name and title as heard], and with Evaristo Domingos Kimba, minister of agriculture. The president of the republic, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, will also meet Dr Kleinert, who will sign a cooperation agreement with Angola in the field of training cadre for state organizations.

BOTSWANA

'Cordial' Cooperation Talks Held With Zimbabwe

*MB171232 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1110 GMT 17 Mar 86*

[Text] Delegates to the meeting of the Botswana-Zimbabwe joint commission of cooperation held in Gaborone over the weekend have emphasized the need to strengthen bilateral cooperation. The two delegations said in a communique signed at the end of their meeting that the unstable political situation in southern Africa, in particular the South African destabilization policy, had an adverse effect on the economies of Botswana and Zimbabwe. However, the meeting expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the joint commission since its inception in 1984. The delegates reaffirmed their determination to continue to promote cooperation and explore new areas for economic, scientific, cultural, and technical cooperation between their peoples. The communique said the discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of cordial and mutual understanding. The Zimbabwean delegation was led by the country's minister of trade and commerce, Dr Munyaradzi, while the Botswana delegation was led by the minister of commerce and industry, Mr Kwako Nwako.

MOZAMBIQUE

UN Refugee Commission Delegation Visits for Talks

*MB171222 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 15 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] A delegation from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the UNHCR, left Maputo this morning. While in Maputo, the delegation held discussion with Mozambican authorities about the situation of displaced Mozambicans who fled across the borders into neighboring countries largely as a result of the South-African backed terrorism. In Maputo, the delegation held talks with representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and with the U.S. Embassy officials. These contacts were aimed at investigating the possibilities that the Red Cross or the United States might be able to help finance the repatriation of the refugees. There are also Mozambican refugees in Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi.

Talks on Water Affairs Held With South Africa

*MB171358 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353 GMT
17 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — Three delegates of the Mozambican Department of Water Affairs have held discussions with their counterparts in Pretoria in terms of the Nkomati

Accord whereby assistance and technical advice is offered to the Mozambican Government.

The Department of Water Affairs said in a statement that during the two-day visit last week, the visitors discussed hydrological data, the monitoring of pollution, evaluation of new projects and underground water, and specific technical problems relating to dams.

The delegates were led by Mr A. Lopes Pereira, national director, and two engineers in his department.

During their stay in Pretoria, the Mozambicans also visited the hydrological research institute at Roodeplaat Dam near Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Comments on Mandela Release

*MB191756 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1700 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and U.S. special envoy, Frank Wisner, met again in Frankfurt, West Germany today, to discuss an independence plan for South-West Africa. An American Embassy spokesman in Bonn said the meeting was part of the continued series of meetings with key figures in southern Africa. The spokesman confirmed that bilateral and regional issues had been on the agenda for today's meeting.

During a break newsmen also asked Mr Botha about the possible release of Nelson Mandela.

[Botha] He can be released the moment the South African Government can be satisfied that his release will not be accompanied by large-scale violence and the killing of a lot of people. The main aim behind that is that he should abandon violence which as a rule applies to you and me and all persons in any civilized country of the world. Either that or if Mr Sakharov can be released and Captain du Toit, a South African soldier presently held prisoner in Angola, if he could be safely returned to South Africa, then there will immediately be a basis for negotiating for Mr Mandela's release on humanitarian grounds. That is the position of the South African Government.

[Unidentified reporter] So in your opinion, what is the stumbling block today to settlement in Namibia? The Cubans and Angola?

[Botha] That is the sole obstacle. There are, we believe, 40,000 Cuban troops in Angola, making it possible for the Luanda government to maintain itself in power.

Heunis Discusses National Statutory Council

*MB181915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1800 GMT
18 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 18, SAPA — The national statutory council put forward by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, would offer black leaders the opportunity to share in decision-making at the highest level, and they would thereby be able to make a

positive contribution to the running (bestuur) of the country, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today.

Mr Heunis, who was addressing a student rally at the University of Pretoria, said this was the first step on the road to permanent power sharing.

He said the council, which would meet under the chairmanship of Mr Botha, would consider matters of community interest and advise the government accordingly. This would include proposed legislation concerning those matters.

The council would comprise representatives of the South African governments of the self-governing regions, as well as leaders of other black communities and interested groups.

This was an open invitation, Mr Heunis said, and he believed the time had come for South African leaders, irrespective of what origin to join hands "to search together for mutual, acceptable solutions that meet our situation".

Mr Heunis said he believed that the search for a more acceptable constitutional dispensation should be tackled with urgency. An acceptable and just political system in South Africa could only be worked out through negotiation with all interested parties. That was why the government did not prescribe structures. It believed however, in fixed principles, such as the non-domination and protection of minorities, which would have to be taken into account in constitutional structures.

Mr Heunis said an acceptable and just political dispensation might contain "elements of various models, for example, elements of confederation, federation and union, as well as elements of traditional systems".

"Indeed, our present system already contains elements of confederation, federation, and union".

Regarding future systems, Mr Heunis said cooperation between the republic and independent national states might contain confederal elements. The representation of self-governing national states and provinces in a central government institution might also contain elements of a federation.

The time had come, however, for South Africans who were serious about reform, to stop looking fixedly at stipulated and narrowly defined systems in their search for a solution.

"We must look to one another for solutions," Mr Heunis said.

The "constitutional study of problems" of South Africa could not be solved by constitutional experts. This was the task of the political leaders of the country black, colored, white and Asian, he said.

The South African Government was tied to democracy as the only acceptable means whereby each South African's political aspirations could be given meaning.

The new constitution, the recent measures concerning new local authority regulations, particularly in connection with the proposed regional services councils, the multilateral cooperation structures with the independent states, and the principle of devolution of power, were all instruments which, as such, did not offer the final solution.

However, these formed part of a continuous development process to improve each one's participation in decision-making along democratic lines, Mr Heunis said.

Meeting To Be Addressed by Boesak Banned

*MB191813 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT
19 Mar 86*

[Text] A meeting in King William's Town that was to be addressed by Alan Boesak has been banned. The United Democratic Front [UDF] patron and president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches was to speak on Christian involvement in South African politics. He was invited to speak by the King William's Town civic association, a UDF affiliate. Magistrate Peter Nel imposed the ban in terms of section 46 of the Internal Security Act and he said he had reason to believe public order would be seriously endangered by the meeting. The civic association spokesman, John Mit, says the banning order is to be challenged in the Grahamstown Supreme Court tonight.

Appeals Court Finds Detention Orders on 16 Invalid

*MB201009 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1003 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Bloemfontein, March 20, SAPA — The appeal court in Bloemfontein today found that detention orders served on 16 people in August 1984, including six people who subsequently sought refuge in the British Consulate in Durban, were invalid.

The Chief Justice Mr Justice Rabie, with the concurrence of Mr Justice Trengove, Mr Justice Hoexter, Mr Justice Botha and Mr Justice Van Heerden, upheld appeals by Mr Curtis Ephraim Nkondo and seven others against a judgment of Mr Justice H.H. Nestadi, and by Mr Archibald Jacob Gumede and seven others against a judgment of a full bench of the Natal Supreme Court.

The appeal court dismissed an appeal by the minister of law and order and Lieutenant Strydom, officer commanding Pietermaritzburg prison, against a decision of Mr Justice B. Law in the Natal Supreme Court on September 7, 1984 to release Mr Gumede and six others from detention. The appeal was dismissed with costs, including those of two counsels.

The appeal court ordered the appeals of the former detainees to be upheld, with costs including those of two counsels. The lower court orders were set aside and therefore were substituted orders that: The orders of detention issued by the minister against the applicants are declared to be invalid. The respondent (minister) is to pay the applicants' costs, including those of two counsels.

ANC's Nzo Lays Down Conditions for Talks With RSA

*MB201214 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Mar 86*

[Text] The African National Congress of South Africa has said it is ready for a dialogue with the South African Government only if the political ban imposed on it is lifted. The other condition is that jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners be released from jail.

ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo extended an olive branch to the Pretoria regime in Lusaka today in an interview with journalists. Mr Nzo dismissed charges by the Botha regime that his organization was terrorist bent on driving the white man into the sea.

ANC Rejects Invitation to Convention Talks

*MB200917 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Text] The ANC has turned down an invitation to attend 3 days of talks in Britain next week, dubbed a trial national convention. The talks on the crisis in South Africa were due to bring together the ANC, UDF [United Democratic Front], AZAPO, [Azanian People's Organization], Inkatha, and possibly government representatives as well. The talks are believed to have the sanctions of the British Government. Howard Barrell reports.

[Barrell] An ANC official spokesman in Lusaka said today the outlawed movement would not be attending the talks in Britain. He said the ANC did not have the time for talks of this nature at this stage. We are attending to various serious matters concerning our liberation struggle, the ANC spokesman said. Observers are not surprised at the ANC's response. For some time now it has been clear that ANC leaders are concerned that talks of one kind or another have been taking up too much time and diverting attention away from what they regard as more serious pursuits.

Former Botswana ANC Representative on Withdrawal

*MB142004 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 14 Mar 86*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The ANC now has no official presence in any of the countries neighboring South Africa. Over the past couple of years, it has been kicked out of Swaziland, Mozambique, and Lesotho under heavy South African pressure. Now, following a number of landmine explosions on the border between South Africa and Botswana, the ANC has got its marching orders from Gaborone. The ANC's representative in Botswana was Thami Sindelo. He is now in Lusaka. On the line, Julian Marshall asked Thami Sindelo how he had found out that he had to leave Botswana.

[Begin recording] [Sindelo] Well, I was called here by my president, Oliver Tambo. He said that I should come back to Lusaka

as soon as I possibly can and before doing that I should try and wind up my work in Botswana.

[Marshall] Had the Botswana authorities said anything to you?

[Sindelo] No, they didn't because I got my instructions directly from my headquarters, from my president in Lusaka.

[Marshall] Did it come as something of a surprise to you?

[Sindelo] Well, considering the situation generally in that region, it really didn't come as a surprise.

[Marshall] What do you mean by that?

[Sindelo] I mean that there have been talks going on between the South African Government and the Botswana Government and we know that they were making certain demands on the Botswana Government, particularly that they could not tolerate the presence of the ANC in Botswana, as they say in whatever guise. So, this was, sort of, expected.

[Marshall] Are you disappointed with the Botswana Government?

[Sindelo] Not at all. I don't think I am. I am not disappointed because, having lived there for almost a year, I was aware of the happenings in Botswana, particularly the pressures that have been exerted by South Africa on Botswana.

[Marshall] Do you think that had you continued in Botswana that the South Africans might have attempted some kind of raid on the territory?

[Sindelo] I should think so, positively, because that is part of the destabilization process of the South African regime against neighboring states which refuse to bow down to their demands.

[Marshall] What was the nature of your presence in Botswana, Mr Sindelo? Was it simply political and diplomatic?

[Sindelo] It was simply diplomatic and political, period. That was my main work there.

[Marshall] So you would deny any South African suggestions that Botswana was being used as something of a rear base?

[Sindelo] Absolutely, absolutely. You see, the problem is that the South African regime seems to think that the ANC, wherever it is, constitutes a threat and in order to justify their threats against these countries, they always say that people are using these countries as a rear base. Now, the ANC has made it clear on various occasions that we do not want to expose these countries to any threat or danger of invasion by South Africa. Therefore, we have refrained from using any of these frontline areas as what you would call rear bases for the ANC. The struggle is in reality taking place right within the frontiers of South Africa and therefore there is no need for us to use these countries in any way as a springboard for action or military action inside South Africa.

[Marshall] Not even for fighters to transit?

[Sindelo] Fighters, no. If you had asked that question a few years ago, I would have said yes, but as things are today, the situation is quite different. We do not need to use these countries in any way as springboard or transit territories for our actions inside the country. [end recording]

Le Grange Replies to Question on Guguletu Killings
MB181410 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353 GMT
 18 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 18, SAPA — None of the seven men shot dead in a gun battle with police in Guguletu on March 3 had attempted to surrender, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said today.

Replying to a question from Mr Tiaan van der Merwe (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Green Point) the minister said the South African Police had information that the men, all of whom were armed at the time, were members of the banned African National Congress and had been trained as "terrorists". None of them had previously been detained or arrested in terms of any security legislation.

All the dead had gunshot wounds but details of these and the cause of death and injury of each, established at post mortem examinations, were not yet available.

Mr le Grange said a quantity of arms and ammunition, including three AK-47 rifles, a pistol, two revolvers, and two hand grenades had been confiscated. The seven men had been travelling in a private delivery van which had been stolen on February 26, but he refused to give further details of the owner of the van, saying it was not in the public interest.

The minister confirmed police had received information from sources in the Old Crossroads and other squatter camps in the area a few days before the shooting, to the effect that "a group of terrorists" intended to attack the police station and a police unit in Guguletu.

Efforts to trace the men or the stolen van had not been successful.

Beyond describing the man in charge at the incident as a commissioned officer, Mr le Grange said he was not prepared to make his name public.

Businessmen Meet Le Grange To Discuss Bannings
MB200620 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
 0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Senior representatives of the Federated Chamber of Industries [FCI] and the Midlands Chamber of Industries have met the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, to discuss the banning orders instituted against Mr Mkhusele Jack and Mr Henry Fazzie.

A statement released by the FCI says that both of these community leaders have been involved for some time in negotiations with the local chamber of industries to find ways of reducing tension

in the Port Elizabeth area. The statement says Mr le Grange indicated the reasons why, from a security viewpoint, the banning orders were imposed.

BBC Interviews Banned Port Elizabeth Leader
MB151229 London BBC World Service in English
 0635 GMT 15 Mar 86

[From the "This Week and Africa" program]

[Text] In South Africa, Mkhusele Jack, the president of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress, has been banned. The Youth Congress organized a 5 month's boycott last year of white shops and business by black consumers in the Indian Ocean cities of East London and Port Elizabeth. The boycott, which crippled many white businesses, was called off when the authorities met some of the activists' demands, but there was talk of resuming it this month to get the outstanding demands met, such as the release of Nelson Mandela and the dismantling of the apartheid system. Just before his banning, Mkhusele Jack was in London and Julian Marshall asked him if he believed those demands were realistic:

[Begin recording][Jack] Well, they are reasonable. I mean in the light of dismantling apartheid, releasing Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners, the returning of all political exiles, and the unbanning of organizations can change nothing in South Africa overnight. But it will create an atmosphere of a shift from apartheid and that is enough, at least the starting point from which people can see from there where do they go. They are very reasonable and we have taken them up, we have discussed them with the local chamber of commerce, and they have said that also that they are reasonable.

[Marshall] There were allegations while the boycott was in progress of intimidation of those people who refused to observe it, that people were being maltreated, they were being forced to eat and drink purchases that they had made by people involved in this boycott.

[Jack] Well, I don't know. It is difficult for me to deny or confirm them, these allegations, except that to wait and see as to what are the basis of their.... [changes thought] the foundations, where do they come from, something like that, because I think the logical thing will be this is a fact that so and so was taken to court for what he has done and because of that and that, then maybe we can see. But what is important is the fact that we have made it quite clear, time and again, that the boycott should be on a voluntary basis and understanding and therefore we don't think that such an action could happen. If it has happened, South Africa has got so many laws which are security laws which, you know, could not have permitted anybody to commit such a crime, and they will be taken immediately on the basis of that. To us it sounds as if these are empty allegations which have no basis whatsoever.

[Marshall] So, you are saying that these incidents did not take place?

[Jack] No, I am not saying that, but that is the conclusion you could come to because, I mean in South Africa obviously you

would never be allowed to engage in that. We were arrested for saying to the people they should boycott the white shops. How much more for a person who could be stopping people, that is, I mean, how I see it goes. I am not necessarily saying that; if these things could happen then obviously they will be shown by people. There is not a single person who has been taken to court for such actions and therefore it is difficult for me with certainty to say that this thing has happened. I think it is an attempt to try to blackmail our campaign. [end recording]

PFP Divided Over Proposal To Expel Slabbert

*MB171304 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT
17 Mar 86*

[Text] A split is looming in the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] over a proposal to expel former leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert. Proposals to force Dr Slabbert out have been made in opposition circles, but the party is believed to be deeply divided over the campaign.

Some members of the party are baying for the former leader's blood, believing he has cast doubts on the party's integrity and should therefore be expelled. However, he retained sympathy among a large section. The matter came to a head recently when Dr Slabbert said he agreed only reluctantly to participate in the tricameral Parliament. However, the PFP maintains it was owing to Dr Slabbert's forceful argument that the party opted to stay in Parliament.

Black Sash Calls for Resignation of Le Grange

*MB171754 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1740 GMT
17 Mar 86*

[Text] Durban, March 17, SAPA — The Black Sash said at the weekend it was convinced the South African Government was "deliberately provoking violence and promoting disorder in South Africa," and called for the resignation of the minister of law and order, Mr Louis Le Grange.

At the national conference of the women's organisation, held in Durban at the weekend, the Black Sash said it could find "No other rational interpretation which could explain the free hand given to vigilantes, the lack of police action to protect persons and property from violent attacks and the failure to prosecute persons against whom charges of assault, arson and sometimes murder have been laid."

The group said that the state "seeks violent confrontation in a deliberate attempt to crush all opposition." The detention of children also drew the Sash's criticism.

The organisation said the Internal Security Act and the Public Safety Act were given precedence over other laws such as the Children's Act as no fewer than 2106 children, aged between eight and 16 years old, were detained during the state of emergency.

"We believe that Mr le Grange has shown himself incapable of handling the portfolio of justice ... We therefore call for his resignation."

The Black Sash also called on all mothers and fathers in South Africa to "exercise maximum and sustained pressure on the government to stop the abuse of children."

New Crossroads Committee Leaders Murdered

*MB201305 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1300 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 20, SAPA — The chairman of the New Crossroads Committee, Mr Venfolo Sitwanyi, 38, and his deputy, Mr James Mehlala, 56, have been murdered.

Their bodies were found by police in New Crossroads last night. Their heads had been badly slashed and their lower bodies burnt. It is understood that they had also been stoned. Post-mortem examinations will be held.

The men were neighbours in Ndabaqinzi Street, New Crossroads. A police spokesman said today the motive had not been established. It could not be established today whether other members of the committee would be protected in the wake of the killings, which are understood to have occurred after a meeting in the area earlier in the night.

Police were called to New Crossroads just before midnight after being telephoned and told there were two bodies in the street.

The killings happened after two houses and a car were set alight in the area earlier in the day by a group of about 50 people. The home-owners were not present at the time.

The police spokesman said investigators were told that Mr Sitwanyi was at home with his wife when a mob of between 20 and 30 people attacked him and told him they would kill him.

The spokesman said it appeared as if Mr Sitwanyi had tried to defend himself and then fled his house. He took refuge at a nearby property but the crowd told the occupants that if they did not hand him over, they would also be attacked. Mr Sitwanyi is understood to have given himself up and was then killed.

The body of Mr Mehlala was found about 30 metres away. He had apparently been at home at the time of the attack. The men's houses were damaged and looted.

UNITA Officials Shouted Down at Witwatersrand U.

*MB191659 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 19 Mar 86*

[Text] A large group of black students shouting pro-MPLA, pro-ANC, and anti-UNITA slogans and displaying placards, this afternoon disrupted and fought at a meeting on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand, which was to have been addressed by three senior UNITA officers who are on a visit to

South Africa. The officers are the guests of the National Student Federation.

University security men told the officers to leave the campus for the sake of their personal safety. The visiting UNITA officers are UNITA's permanent secretary and members of the Executive Committee, Brigadier Tito Chinaunji; UNITA's intelligence chief, Brigadier Kasitu Chindondo; and a member of the movement's public relations division, Brigadier Jorge Muzangala.

'Thousands' of Mamelodi Workers End Boycott

*MB200912 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0843 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — Thousands of workers from Mamelodi returned to work early today following a three-day work boycott.

Some of the employees return to work with the prospect of losing their jobs, while others face a threat of a slashed pay at the end of the week. An irate Pretoria employer indicated on Monday he would fire his four employees from Mamelodi and hire workers from areas that would not be affected by stayaways.

Buses and taxis, which had suspended services for the past three days, ran normally in Mamelodi early today, ferrying thousands of employees to work.

The call for a three-day work boycott was sparked off by the disruption by the police of a meeting to launch the Mamelodi Civic Association, during which at least 10 people were injured. No anti-apartheid organisation in the township has claimed responsibility for the call.

Pamphlets urging people to go back to work were distributed by the security forces in the township last night and the forces used a megaphone from one block to another early today to urge people to return to work as they would protect them.

The pamphlets read: There will be no stayaway in Mamelodi on March 20. Security forces will patrol all streets to bus terminus, Eerste Fabriek station and taxi rank. Intimidators will be arrested. It will be safe for you to go to work.

There were heavy patrols of police and the army, some moving from street to street on foot in Mamelodi West, to ensure that the workers moved to their transport boarding points unhindered, but as the boycott enforcers had indicated workers could go back to work today. [sentence as received].

8 Trade Unionists in Hospital After Police Action

*MB201109 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, March 20, SAPA — Eight trade union members have been admitted to hospital following police action against about 300 strikers in Germiston yesterday.

Six of those in hospital are under police guard. Earlier, union reports referred to only four workers in hospital.

The Paper Wood and Allied Workers Union said police entered the premises of GB Engineering and Pan African Shopfitters yesterday teargassed about 300 strikers who were assembled in a closed room.

The workers had been on strike at two firms and had slept on company property despite a supreme court interdict ordering them to leave the premises.

"Eight people were seriously injured and are in hospital and a number of others were badly cut after going through plate glass to escape the gas," a union spokesman said.

"Seventy-one members of our union and the Metal and Allied Workers Union were arrested and appeared in the Germiston Magistrates Court yesterday afternoon. Bail was set at R500 each, which we could not afford. They were remanded in custody until March 25. It is believed they will face charges of trespassing.

"Our lawyers were not informed of the court appearance. They were under the impression that the workers would appear in court today.

"We totally condemn the police action as the workers were engaged in a peaceful action in an attempt to get the employers to discuss alternatives to retrenchment.

"We believe charges should be dropped and will raise the matter with the Congress of SA Trade Unions this weekend and are investigating the customers of Pan African Shopfitters."

Violence, Protests Occur Over 'Bail Fund' Demands

*MB200616 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2041 GMT
19 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town March 19 SAPA — Nyanga youths today burnt down the house of a man who allegedly attacked two girls with an axe because their families refused to contribute to a "bail fund" for arrested faction fighters.

And in a further development today, about 250 women marched to the Guguletu police station to demand an end to intimidation and demands by armed men for "bail fund" contributions.

According to residents, the money would be used for the release of "white doek (cloth cap)" fighters, who were arrested by police in January.

One of the women attacked last night, Miss Boniwe Nyembezi 18, was admitted to hospital, her mother, Mrs Gladys Nyembezi, said.

"Her head was split open and there were cut marks on her body. My daughter was minding her business. She had nothing to do with the white doeks".

This morning, after a deputation of about 30 women reported the attacks at Guguletu police station, about 250 women — mostly mothers — marched to the station to demand that police put a stop to the "white doek committees business". They were ordered to disperse by police, which they did. There were no incidents.

Meanwhile, youths this morning torched the house and car of the man they believe responsible for the attacks. An adjoining house, belonging to Mr Patrick Mgcikwa, was also destroyed in the blaze.

"I don't know what happened. I came home and found this," he said, indicating a pile of furniture heaped in a neighbours garden.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape Lieut Attie Laubscher, confirmed the burning of the homes and the car and said police had opened an arson docket and were investigating. Police were also investigating allegations made at Guguletu police station by about 30 women, he said.

Five Now Reported Dead in Student-Gang Fighting
MB201121 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1116 GMT
 20 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 20, SAPA — At least five people were killed and five houses and five cars burned in Diepkloof, near Soweto, during a day-long fight between pupils and members of the Kabasa gang.

The fight started on Tuesday morning and continued until early yesterday. Three houses were burned in zone four and one each in zone three and zone one.

The fight between the Kabasa, non-scholars from Orlando East, and the pupils was said to have been caused by a youth in a car knocking down another youth in Diepkloof on Saturday.

His mother, anticipating revenge by pupils, recruited the Kabasa gang to protect her and the gang stayed at her home over the weekend and Monday.

Neighbours said about 3,000 pupils attacked the house in zone four with petrol bombs on Tuesday. As they exploded inside the house the gang fled but two people were caught by the pupils, doused with petrol, and burned. Residents watched in horror as the two men burnt to death.

A Soweto police spokesman, Major F. Zwane, confirmed today that five men had been stoned or burnt to death in a clash between a gang and a group of youths.

The three others who died were abducted by the Kabasa gang when they returned to the neighbourhood at about 6pm. Witnesses said the young men were taken away by the gang and several shots fired. Three bodies were identified at the government mortuary. They were Mr Tankiso Mofokeng, 19, Mr Lawrence Raphela, 22, Mr Kgadi Ramela. Mr Raphela was returning from work. The other two were unemployed.

At midnight the gang burnt down a house belonging to teacher Mr Aaron Ramela and tried to burn another belonging to motor mechanic Mr Peter Maeti. Two of his vehicles were destroyed. The Kabasas also burned two houses believed to belong to their attackers.

A resident who did not wish to be identified said: "It was a real battle. The pupils were armed with petrol bombs, pangas and knives and came to our houses to ask for axes."

Blast Rocks Springs Church; No Injuries Reported
MB191957 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1956 GMT
 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 19, SAPA — An explosion rocked a church on the East Rand this evening, police in Pretoria said.

A spokesman told SAPA in a telephone interview the blast went off at the Nuwe Apostolies Kerk (New Apostolic Church) in Geduld, Springs. No injuries were immediately reported, the spokesman said, adding damage appeared to be slight. The spokesman could not confirm the blast was caused by a limpet mine.

"That's something we're still looking at." The spokesman had no further details.

Tonight's blast comes after a number of blast and mine incidents on the east Rand in recent days.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 19 Mar
MB191658 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1655 GMT
 19 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 19, SAPA — Here follows the unrest report up to 7pm today, issued by the SAP's Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"At Secisoville, near Kroonstad, arsonists extensively damaged a delivery vehicle.

"Arsonists also extensively damaged a private vehicle at Tembisa, near Kempton Park, and a delivery vehicle at Soweto, near Johannesburg.

"Near Mostertslus, in Lebowa, an unknown number of blacks barricaded a road. The Lebowa police made use of shotguns and a man was wounded; 34 men and 12 women were arrested.

"At Soweto, near Johannesburg, two men were stoned to death.

"The death toll at Jouberton, near Klerksdorp, (originally reported as two dead and one wounded at 7pm on March 16) has risen to four. One man was found dead during investigations, while the wounded man died in hospital."

Early 20 Mar

*MB200625 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0620 GMT
20 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — The overnight unrest situation report from the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria follows.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand] large mobs stoned and petrol-bombed SAP members. They were dispersed with shotgun fire. Two youths were wounded and nine arrested.

"At Duncanville near EL [East London] a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. A man was slightly injured by the mob.

"At Sandkraalweg industrial area and Lawaaiikamp in the south western Cape, there were incidents of stonethrowing at SAP and private vehicles. Tearsmoke and shotgun was fired to disperse these mobs. No injuries were reported.

"At Seisoville near Kroonstad, buses were damaged by stonethrowers on a number of occasions.

"At Motherwell near PE [Port Elizabeth] 3 black men were seriously injured when petrol was poured over them and set alight.

"At Borchers, a coloured residential area near George, a delivery vehicle was destroyed when it was petrol-bombed.

"At Guguletu, 2 black men were stabbed to death and their bodies set on fire with petrol.

"In Atteridgeville, 3 private homes were damaged when they were petrol-bombed.

"In the black residential area near Barberton, a private home was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. In the same area, a policeman's home was set on fire and extensively damaged. The arsonists were dispersed with pistol fire. A youth was wounded and arrested."